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PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

The Sweaborg despatch of Admiral Dundas is not as lucid in composition as it is important in material, but we are very glad to get it, notwithstanding. We took good care to express with some qualification our thankfulness for the Sweaborg news, and there is no denying that the "triumph" has not been so very great an affair as it was at first represented. It reminds one of an occasional London fire. A lurid red smoke is seen drifting over the dense crowd of houses—and the mind is filled with visions of a great calamity; but on approaching, you find that nothing more terrible has happened than the combustion of the stock of a retail trader. "Sweaborg exists no longer!" was the announcement by telegraph. But the truth is, that, though much good service (we are happy to say) was done on this occasion, "the sea defences in general were little injured," as the despatch explicitly assures us. What is called Sweaborg, is itself but an outwork of Helsingfors, which remains intact—and Sweaborg has only been partially injured, and by a portion only of our warlike resources. We do not accuse Dundas in the slightest degree—observe, he never informed us that he had done any more; and, besides, he never intended to do any more. He has very well done what he wished to do, and aimed at doing; and—novice as he is in real war—we think his *début* highly creditable to him.

We have mused with such sensations as are not unfamiliar to us, in these times, on a paragraph in the Admiral's important document:—

"My former reports," says he, "will have informed their Lordships, that during the past year, and in the course of the last five months, the enemy has been actively employed in strengthening the defences of the place, and completing the sea defences, by erecting batteries on every advantageous position and commanding every practicable approach to the harbour in this intricate navigation."

"The enemy has been actively employed"—very respectable on his part! But why did we wait till he had done so much? Was it that we might knock all his preparations over the more decisively?

"With louder ruin, to the gulfs below?"

Not so. For the writer proceeds,—

"It has therefore formed no part of my plan to attempt a general attack by the ships on the defences; and the operations contemplated by Rear-Admiral Pénaud and myself were limited to such destruction of the fortress and arsenal as could be accomplished by means of mortars."

That is, we have calmly permitted the preparations, and, *therefore*, our operations are now limited. We can suggest no reasons for this delay. Perhaps the gun-boats were not ready,—but that only puts the inquiry a step farther back, and lands us on another "why," to which no satisfactory answer can be given.

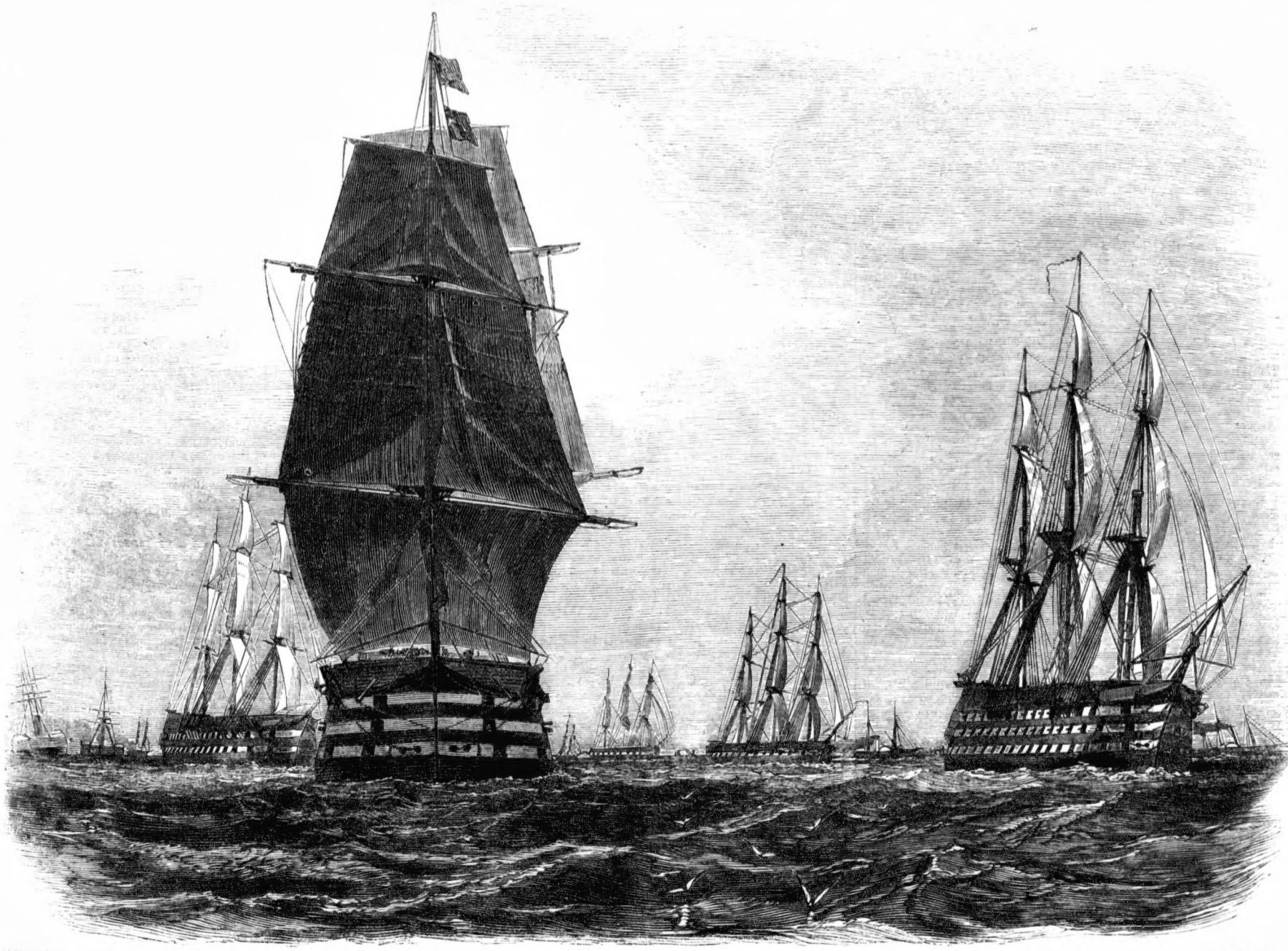
Without, however, inquiring why this was not done before, or why no more was done, let us direct our attention to what has been done, like practical and sensible people.

Sweaborg—as is now widely known—consists of a group of six rocky little islets (five of which are connected by bridges), in the Gulf of Finland, and is three miles distant from Helsingfors. The navigation near it is intricate and difficult,—the fortifications strong,—and the batteries heavy. Before this place our squadron and that of the French arrived in the course of the 6th instant. On the morning of the 7th, they weighed and went in; and the 8th was spent in busy preparations for the assault. The French established a battery with sand-bags on the rocks within the islet of Oterhall. The mortar vessels were in a curved line on either side of this islet. The gun-boats were then detached to engage the batteries, and protect the mortar-boats,—shifting to and fro, and varying their places as required,—while steamers were ready for towing, in case of necessity. The line-of-battle ships, meanwhile, remained at anchor, in the positions which they had first assumed. The attack began on the morning of the 9th. The firing seems to have been admirable. By ten o'clock, fires were observed in different buildings, and three magazine explosions occurred during the day. At night, the gun-boats having been recalled, the ships' boats were sent in to fire rockets. Next day the attack was resumed; and next night also. The following morning it was discontinued; "considering the

extent of injury which had now been inflicted upon the enemy," and that "few buildings remained to be destroyed on the island of Vargon, and that those still standing upon Swartoe were at the extreme extent of our range, and in positions where no shells had yet reached them."

The attack, then, was not final, as destructive of the place, as this last passage, and one previously quoted, concur to show. It was, however, a terrible chastisement. That our fire was most vigorous and most accurate, is proved by the circumstance that the Russians withdrew, during the first night of the assault, a three-decker, which had been moored to defend one of the channels. The repeated fires and explosions must have been fatal to several stores and magazines, and must have disabled several batteries. And, while their loss was thus severe, our part of the business was performed with all but impunity. Indeed, we seem to have suffered most from our own rockets (as in the case of the rocket accident in the boats of the *Vulture* and *Hastings*)—one great reason of our scathelessness being, that our gun-boats were ever "on the move," and thus very hard to "wing."

Sweaborg was, in fact, a gun-boat action. The work was done by gun-boats and mortar-boats. This is a kind of service peculiarly fitted to the naval character. In the first place, it is strictly more *naval* than a mere hammering away from a moored and tranquil line-of-battle ship—inasmuch as it is more an affair of dexterity in the handling of a floating craft, and as it leaves more play to that free development of the individual, which is one of the moral features of naval training. We incline to rejoice in all that brings boat service into prominence; since now that our line-of-battle ships are become floating castles propelled by machinery, our navy is in danger of being less nautical—less the profession of a seaman, properly so called. It should be remembered, that it is in seamanship that our essential superiority consists. Our chance of beating the Russians lies, not in firing better only, but rather in being able to fire well, under circumstances where they would be little able to fire at all. It is well that, as they dare not meet us in sea fight, we should get



UNFLEXIBLE. ROSAMOND.

SANS PAREIL.

NEPTUNE (FLAGSHIP).

MALACCA.

THE SQUADRON OF HONOUR ON ITS WAY TO BOULOGNE.

FIRE QUEEN.

into the way of attacking them under conditions where the qualities necessary to a sea fight have fair play. Now, a gun-boat action is (partially, at least) one of these;—a gun-boat is a little miniature man-of-war, the utility of which depends much on the dexterity with which it is handled.

While affairs in the north have been, after a long lull, thus enlivened by a success which (though unquestionably exaggerated for a time) is yet brilliant and promising; and while the blow of which we have spoken has been followed by an attack on Riga, of the nature and extent of which we are still ignorant, affairs in the Crimea have also been going on better. All additional accounts of the Tchernaya battle tend decidedly to make its importance more apparent. Gortschakoff commanded in person; 600 prisoners were taken; 2,500 fell. The French and Sardinian loss was far inferior. The Russians, in fact, failed in a great and deliberate design, which would have totally changed, if successful, the state of affairs. They were defeated, and that by a portion only of the allied army. The attempt indicates—not the overflowing vigour of a brave and vigorous army—but the rash desperation of men who, in fighting against their enemies, are also fighting against hope. Rumours are afloat of their abandoning Sebastopol. The difficulty of obtaining supplies increases. The lines of attack close in. With misery within and without—no wonder that the stern and tough barbarians rush passionately into action, to relieve the weariness of a yielding defence; but once more they have been fairly beaten in a fair fight. No one can doubt either the spirit or the ability with which they have fought during the war (indeed, it argues a vigour in their system of government which all nations by no means possess); but it is equally certain, that they are no match for either English, French, or Sardinians. They were signally beaten at Alma, when they chose their own mode of defence; and signally beaten at Inkermann and the Tchernaya, when they chose their own mode, time, and place of attack. When we consider that in addition to their natural qualities, they have a system of discipline which has received all the advantages of all the inventions of Europe; it seems difficult to suppose them so formidable a race as is sometimes asserted. Formidable indeed they would soon be, if they were suffered to develop at leisure and extend as they pleased; and formidable indeed in the long run, if Europe so far listened to its commercial wizenedness as to neglect its military efficiency. But we cannot doubt that in the absence of these last conditions, the Russian will ere long be reduced to his proper dimensions, both in power and in reputation. His is not a race of which it may be said, as of the old Germans, during the Roman supremacy—that it has not had its chance. The preaching of Christianity has not elevated the race; nor the contiguity of civilisation refined it. It produces none of those noble individuals, in the persons of whom the civilised world might honour the capacities of an undeveloped stock. Indeed it is formidable, not by being more daring, but by being less civilised; not for the reasons which made the Goth terrible to the effeminate provincial—but for those which make the Kaffir terrible to the Cape settler. Europe fears it as society fears its outcasts. But this kind of danger is evanescent. The Turk, himself, was as dreadful a bugbear three centuries ago.

If we take a hopeful view of the present state of the war, it is not that we see any very notable improvement in the way in which our government, as a government, is conducting it. But we have much faith in the natural, unexhausted energies of the English people and their Allies; and whenever these get fair play under tolerable conditions, we confidently back them to do much harder work than that in which they are at present engaged.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The file Napoleon, contrary to expectation, passed by without the creation of any new marshals of France.

The visit of Queen Victoria to the French capital, and the various fêtes and diversions arising out of the event, are absorbing the entire attention of the Parisians. Everything else is for the time being regarded as of little interest.

M. de Ducker, the Minister of the Interior of Belgium, and M. Mercier the Minister of Finance, have arrived in Paris.

It is announced that, owing to the representations of the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the French Government has consented to take off the *décime de guerre*, or additional duty on account of the war, from Belgian flax and hemp, which had made a difference of about 2 per cent. to the manufacturers.

The Municipal Council of Paris, recently appointed by the Emperor, have met at the Hôtel-de-Ville, and opened the ordinary session of 1855. The Prefect of the Seine, after administering to the members the oath of obedience to the Constitution and fidelity to the Emperor, read a decree appointing M. Delangle President, and MM. Dumas and Perier, Vice-Presidents of the Council. The sitting was occupied with the formation of committees for the despatch of public business.

The public health at Paris, despite the high temperature, the great increase of the population, and the influx of strangers, continues in the most satisfactory state. At least half the beds in the hospitals are empty.

SPAIN.

ENERGETIC measures are being taken for seizing the property of the clergy, in spite of the passive resistance of the bishops and other ecclesiastical authorities. The allocution of the Pope on the affairs of Spain, delivered in the last Consistory, has been received. Some persons talk of getting up demonstrations of hostility to the Pope, but the Government having resolved to make a moderate but resolute reply to the Pope's allocution, will not allow them.

The *Gazette* states that during the last 12 months, 150,772 muskets, and 11,612 swords have been distributed to the National Guard. It appears that the Government desires to place Spain in a position to take a useful and honourable part in the offensive and defensive alliance of the Western Powers. But to attain this object, the Ministers have to struggle against great obstacles, and amongst them the opposition of the newspapers and of public opinion. Reports have been current of a ministerial crisis, but they are unfounded. The treasury is employed in preparing bonds of the forced loan which will have to be levied when the time for the subscription of the voluntary one shall have expired.

The Queen of Spain will remain at the Escorial until the middle of September.

AUSTRIA.

THERE is some talk of a congress of statesmen at Vienna, with the view of coming to some settlement on the affairs of Italy. Overtures are said to have been made by the Holy See to induce the Austrian Government to interfere in its quarrel with Sardinia. But while the Emperor cannot approve of the measures of the Sardinian Government, and even condemns them, both on political and religious grounds, his Majesty is still very far from wishing to mix himself up with the internal affairs of another State—for such he considers the question. On the 18th inst., a Concordat between Austria and Rome was signed at Vienna.

PRUSSIA.

It is said that a marriage is about to take place between the Princess Louise, daughter of the Prince of Prussia, and the Prince Regent of Baden. Prince Frederic of the Netherlands arrived at Berlin on the 15th, from Copenhagen.

RUSSIA.

It is positively stated that the Emperor of Russia will, towards the latter end of this month, proceed to Sebastopol, with his brothers Nicholas and Michael, in order to convey in person to the army the expression of the gratitude of his late father, as he verbally promised to do.

For the last two months 500 workmen, under the direction of engineer officers, among whom were several Germans, had been daily employed in constructing fortifications on the two sides of the bay of Kinburn, Odessa, and nearer the Dnieper three earth forts have also been raised, and which are united to the other works established along the Tendre, between the bay and the sea. Four batteries, each armed with five heavy guns, have also been constructed close to the village of Pokrowskoje. All these fortifications together would form a very strong obstacle to the landing of an enemy's force, should such movement be attempted by the Allies. The two small islands at the entrance of the bay of Kinburn, have also been placed in a respectable state of defence. The fortress of Otschakow is now armed with 241 guns, and that of Kinburn has at least 356. Batteries constructed close to the sea are mounted with 43 guns of the largest calibre.

DENMARK.

THE President of the Council, M. Bang, accompanied by all his colleagues, went, on the 11th inst., to the Chamber of the Volksthing, and read a letter patent from the King declaring the session open, which was answered by three times three hurrahs from the deputies. The old priest Lindberg, who is the strongest opponent in the Diet, called out that a cheer should also be given for the constitution and the electoral law. This proposition was responded to by another round of three times three. The election of the president was then proceeded to, and M. Rottivis, the old president, unanimously chosen.

The Volksthing, in its sitting on the 15th, unanimously adopted the Bill of the Constitution on a first reading. The members of the Supreme Court named by the Landsthing all belong to those opposed to the old Ministry. Among them are the professors of Larsen and Chausen, and M.M. Lehmann, Dispachen, Wesseley, and Knuth.

It is asserted that the accession of Denmark to the Western Alliance is as good as settled, the Danish Admiral Mourier, now in Paris, being entrusted with the necessary powers for the definitive conclusion of a treaty with that view.

SWEDEN.

IT is believed that England and France have agreed to the conditions proposed by Sweden, in the event of her joining the Western Alliance; they guarantee her actual possessions, and engage, in case she can reconquer her ancient states, to place sufficient troops at her disposal for a certain number of years, to maintain possession of them.

ITALY.

GENERAL PERCY, charged by the English Government with the raising and organisation of the Italian Legion, will shortly commence the work of enrolment. He has published a notice, having received numerous applications from officers desirous of joining the corps, he will fix certain days to communicate with them at the British Embassy at Turin.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte, second son of Prince Charles, Prince of Canino, who has assumed the ecclesiastical profession, is to be named Cardinal, and Grand Almoner to his cousin, the Emperor of the French. The young Prince, who is now 21, had already declined accepting the Cardinal's hat, and declared that he had no ambition to be other than a simple Abbé. He has only yielded out of obedience to the Pope.

TURKEY.

THE Porte has appointed the celebrated Arab Chief Bou-Maza a Bey, and given him the command of a detached corps of the army of Batoum at Souehum-Kaleh. The well-known talent and vigour of that chief may be extremely useful on so important a point as the frontier of Georgia and Turkish Armenia. The entire brigade of General Sol is now encamped at Maslak. The sanitary condition of the troops is excellent.

MEXICO.

ADVICES from Mexico represent the progress of the Revolutionists in that country, from Matamoras to Acapulco, as almost certain to result either in the overthrow of Santa Anna, and a complete reconstruction of the central Government, or in the secession of three or four of the northern and western states, and their organisation into an independent Republic, *à la Texas*.

Santa Anna had, of his own accord, proposed the formation and inauguration of a new Constitution. The Revolutionary party had proclaimed this as a sign of weakness and insecurity on the part of his Highness, and a sure omen of their ultimate success. It was reported that General Comonfort had been defeated.

The revolution in Northern Mexico continued without check. General Woll had fallen back upon Matamoras, but the Revolutionists were concentrating their forces upon that point, and the capture of the city was considered as certain.

The War.

THE GREAT VICTORY ON THE TOCHERNAYA.

DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

THE Russians, according to the telegraphic despatches, attacked the position of the Allies on the Tchernaya on August 16, in great force. The action lasted about three hours, but they were completely repulsed by the French and Sardinians. The attack was under the command of Prince Gortschakoff, with from 50,000 to 60,000 men. Their loss is estimated between 4,000 and 5,000. About 600 prisoners have been taken. The loss on the side of the Allies is said to be very small.

The following despatch is from General Pelissier, dated Traktir Bridge, Aug. 16, 10 a.m.:

"For some days rumours of a premeditated attack on the part of the Russians had aroused our attention, and they carried out their project this morning at daybreak, against our lines on the Tchernaya; but, despite the concentration of imposing masses collected during the night, the enemy was repulsed with great vigour by the divisions of Generals Herbillon, Camou, Fauchoux, and Morris. The Sardinians, placed on our right, fought valiantly. The principal effort of the enemy was directed against Traktir Bridge. The Russians left a great number of dead there, and we made a great many prisoners. They were in full retreat on Mackenzie's Farm when our reserves were coming up, and those of our brave Allies, especially the English cavalry. The enemy has received a severe check. Our losses, which are much less than those of the Russians, have not yet been accurately ascertained."

General La Marmora writes as follows to the Sardinian Minister of War:—dated Kadikoi, Aug. 16.

"This morning the Russians, to the number of 50,000, attacked the lines on the Tchernaya. Our watchword was 'King and country!' The French despatches will say whether the Piedmontese were worthy to fight beside the French and English. They were very brave. General Monte Vichio is dying. We have 200 men put *hors de combat*. The loss of the Russians is considerable."

General Pelissier, in a despatch dated August 17, eleven o'clock at night says:—

"In his attack of yesterday the enemy threw forward five divisions, supported by 6,000 cavalry and 20 batteries of field artillery, with the determination of possessing himself of the heights of Tédiouchein. After having crossed the river at several places they had accumulated supplies of working tools for sappers, thick planks of oaks, beams, fascines, and scaling ladders, all of which they left behind in their flight. As on all occasions, our artillery fought most valiantly and successfully. One of the English established batteries (*batterie de position*), on the rising ground occupied by the Piedmontese, lent us powerful aid. The Russians left upon the field of battle 2,500 slain; 38 Russian officers, and 1,620 soldiers are now in our ambulances. Three Russian generals are among the killed. We have made more than 400 prisoners. Our loss amounts to 181 killed and 810 wounded. Among those severely wounded are Tixier, Duchois, Alpy, and Saint-Remy; less severely wounded, De Polkes, Berthe, and Gagnier, the last-named slightly."

A further despatch has been received from General Pelissier, dated the evening of the 18th. It is as follows:—

"Prince Gortschakoff has asked of me an armistice to bury the dead left on this side of the Tchernaya. I have granted this. The losses of the enemy are greater than I at first thought. Lieutenant-General Read has been killed. Protected by the continued fire of our artillery, the engineers' works are no longer annoyed by the enemy, and have gained every ground."

THE RUSSIAN ACCOUNT.

A despatch from Prince Gortschakoff, dated on the evening of the 16th, says:—"Part of our troops crossed the Tchernaya, and attacked the heights of Tédiouchein. Having encountered very considerable forces, we, after an obstinate fight, thought proper to retreat to the right bank, where we awaited the advance of the enemy for four hours. As they did not move forward, we returned to our former position; the loss is heavy on both sides."

"It was necessary to continue the armistice (says General Pelissier in his despatch dated August 19, 1 p.m.) demanded yesterday by the Russians from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. to-day, for them to carry away their dead. The nearest return we could make gives the following results:—Russians buried by the French 2,129, by the Russians 1,200—total 3,329."

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE HUTS AND TENTS OF THE ARMY.

THE habitations of the army are of three classes—wooden huts, huts or shacks (dating from last winter, and partly subterranean), and tents. Happy, at least at this season, is the man who possesses a good wooden hut with a plank flooring. Most of the large huts, however, are used as stone-houses, or for other general purposes. The walls of the huts (for such is the term that most correctly designates them) are usually three or four feet below ground, and about as much above it, and are surrounded by gabled roofs, without which, in some of them, a tall man could hardly stand upright. These singular dwellings are, as may be supposed, damp and gloomy. They are entered by three or four steps cut in the earth, and usually covered with stones or planks. Here is one of which the entrance is so low that a man of average height must bend double to get in. It is considered rather a good hut, and its owners speak with gratitude, almost with enthusiasm, of the excellent shelter it affords them in the trying times of last winter. It is 8 or 9 feet broad, and about 12 in length. At one end a sort of embrasure admits light through the thick wall, composed of mud and shapeless masses of stone. Below this embrasure is the hearth, barely raised from the ground; on one side is a small niche in the wall, used as a fireplace; the walls are tapestrized with sail-cloth, horse-blankets, and *mantas* that have come all the way from Catalonia and Valencia with the Spanish mules and muleteers, and are adorned with pictures cut from illustrated periodicals, and with numerous pipes, *bien entollées*—well blackened, that is to say, by the tobacco oil that has soaked through the porous clay. There is actually a chimney-piece—a thick board wrenched from some packing case, the rusty nails still sticking in its edges—which supports a biscuit-box, tobacco, bottles in various stages of consumption, and other small comforts. Here is a rough tub, used for the inmates' ablutions, until scarcity of water caused the prohibition of such luxuries. Suspended from the homely tapestry are a sword, a pouch-belt, waterproof and leather leggings. A pair of tall boots are in one corner, and hard by the door—the lightest place—is a crazy table, with writing materials and sundries. A shelf has been contrived, and holds a few well-thumbed volumes. The heavy rain has flowed into the hut through the doorway up to the edge of the bed; the consequence is that the floor resembles a muddy road, in which you slip about and almost stick. A trifle, this, to Crimean campagna. The roof does not leak, which is more than can be said of the roofs of many huts. The one described may be taken as a fair specimen of this class of edifice.

THE CRIMEAN FLIES.

One of the greatest curses of the camp at the present moment (August) is the multitude of flies. It is really an Egyptian place. In every tent and hut they swarm in myriads. From mosquitoes and fleas our soldiers are tolerably free, and there are no bugs. Probably bedsteads are not sufficiently numerous in the Crimea to encourage the presence of those flat and fetid insects. The Crimean fly is the most daring and aggressive animal of its size that one can encounter. It befools everything in your quarters, bites you, and will not be rebuffed. Its courage and activity constitute it the Zouave of the fly family. It dashes into the cup you raise to your lips, and defiles the morsel at the end of your fork. War with it is not to be thought of. Kill a thousand, and you shall have a million in their stead. Whatever food is exposed upon the table—sugar, meat, bread—is in an instant black with flies. The camp resounds with maledictions on the genus. A cargo of "ketch-em-alive" papers, arriving just now at Balaklava, would find an instant sale at exorbitant prices. The huts and tents would soon be peopled with them, though even this, it is feared, would not be the means of exterminating these tormentors.

THE VERMIN ON BOARD THE CAMBRIA.

This vessel arrived at Balaklava from Portsmouth, on the 29th ult., after a tolerably rapid passage. She took out, besides her cargo, a few horses, and some small detachments of various regiments, under command of Captain Foster, and also about 20 officers, chiefly very young subalterns. Making every allowance for the presence of horses on board, but remembering also that she had uninterrupted fine weather during her passage, the state of this ship, when she arrived at Balaklava, was disgraceful. The stench on board were abominable. In the cramped space allotted to the officers, bugs swarmed to such a degree, that many of the young men, after vain attempts to cope with the odious enemy, were driven from their berths, and preferred a plank and a blanket upon deck to the stifling heat and detestable atmosphere of the cabin, and the constant combat with the vermin. Exposure to the heavy dews of the Mediterranean, and want of proper rest—for sleep refreshes little that is snatched in one's clothes on a ship's deck—during a period of two or three weeks, is not a good means of preparing youths, as yet untrained to hardships, for those they inevitably must encounter in a Crimean campaign.

BOYAU ON THE APPROACHES OF THE MALAKHOFF.

A sharp fire was maintained at intervals during the night of the 2d instant from the batteries on both sides. The early part of the night was dark, and rain continued to fall. The working parties took advantage of the absence of the moonlight, and both extended and deepened some of the most advanced works. The French have thrown forward a boyau from the right of one of their advanced approaches on the Malakhoff hill. The end of this new trench is some yards in advance of the foremost part of the most advanced parallel, which is projected in a curved form towards the salient angle of the Korniloff bastion. The boyau is carried along the slope on the right of the Malakhoff hill, as it dips down towards the comparatively level ground beyond it, this is thus protected by the higher part of the ascent towards the enemy's works from the guns of the Redan, which would otherwise take the trench directly in reverse. Its extremity is turned round, to prevent an enfilading fire from the guns of the Korniloff bastion. One principal advantage of this boyau will be, that it will afford a cover to sharpshooters, who can from this position control the fire of some of the flanking guns on the proper left of the Malakhoff works, which had been annoying the guards and working parties in the French approaches advancing up the face of the hill. The Russian trench cut through the abatis, and communicating with the ditch, appears to have been slightly prolonged, but otherwise remains in the condition in which it appeared when first opened.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE.

Batteries are (Aug. 6) springing up on all sides; trenches are turned, approaches are made, and with a degree of stability that contrasts strongly with the puny defences thrown up under the old *regime*. We are nearly 300 yards nearer to the town than we were on the 18th ult., and our Allies are within 60 yards of the ditch of the Malakhoff, and 30 yards of the "Little Redan." This latter work is situated on the proper (Russian) left of the Malakhoff, between that fort and the Careening-bay battery. The French have considered it of sufficient importance to merit a separate

point of attack, and by most judicious and scientific engineering they are placing their approaches in such a position as to isolate the defence of this place and compel it to reserve for its own defence that fire which otherwise would tell most effectually towards the flanking defence of the Malakhoff. As the French lines secure a good portion of the sea side, we may suppose they will not overlook the important part the Russian fleet took in the last defence, and that they will endeavour to prevent a similar contingency.

RENEWED BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

Prince Gortschakoff reports on the 1st inst. that the enemy recommenced the bombardment on the 17th, and was keeping it up at that moment. The defenders of Sebastopol replied with vigour.

The *Moniteur* of last Wednesday says:—"The artillery has again opened fire against Sebastopol. An error in a despatch led to the belief that another bombardment had commenced. It is not the case. This fire is that of our canons, which, as has been seen, has powerfully contributed since its re-commencement, to facilitate the works of the approaches directed against the *ensemble* of the Malakhoff works."

OUR SUCCESSES IN THE BLACK SEA AND SEA OF AZOF.

Despatches were received at the Admiralty on Saturday last from Rear-Admiral Sir E. Lyons, Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. The following accounts of our services in those quarters are extracted from the enclosed despatch of Commander Sherard Osborn, since promoted to the rank of captain. The despatch bears date Arabat Spit, July 25.—

"Since my last letter I have fully succeeded in destroying, by means of submarine explosions, the four Russian steamers sunk in Berdiansk Bay; and, as the enemy had from the houses of the western suburb of Berdiansk twice fired upon our people, while peaceably and unguardedly employed, I considered it right that such a dishonourable course, from a town which had been spared under plea of being defenceless, should be severely punished, and the more so as Berdiansk had been treated with unusual leniency upon the occasion of our former visits. I therefore on the 22d of July caused to be destroyed the western suburb, which had screened their riflemen, and succeeded in discovering and setting fire to no less than ten large granaries filled with wheat, each averaging about 200 tons in capacity, and several flour mills, which have been employed night and day grinding for the use of the Russians. The church and major portion of the town I spared, although nearly every house we searched contained grain in large quantities, and the whole place might be considered little else than a general granary.

"On the 24th of July I rejoined Lieutenant Horton, her Majesty's steam-vessel *Ardent*. He, I found, had not been idle; and, with the assistance of the *Clinker*, Lieutenant Smithet, and *Wrangler*, Lieutenant Bergoyne, very much damage had been done to the enemy from Genitchi to Ovitotchna Spit, in the destruction of forage, fish, stores, and launches."

THE WAR IN ASIATIC TURKEY.

AIDE-DE-CAMP General Mouravieff announces, (says the *Invalid Russ* of Aug. 11), at the date of July 17, that on the 12th he transferred the main body of the corps of operation to the village of Tikmè, which is situated upon the left shore of the Kars Tchai, and that he there joined Major-General Baklanoff's column.

The position of Tikmè in transporting our chief forces upon the rear of the army of Anatolia, has given greater facilities for examining with detail from the western side, by successive reconnaissances, the entrenched camp of Kars. One of these reconnaissances was made by Major-General Cholosko, on the 12th, and another, at the west of the fortress, up to the stream of Schakmakh, which forms at the north the limit of the entrenched camp of Kars, on the 13th, by Aide-de-Camp General Mouravieff in person. During these reconnaissances, the enemy limited himself to sending out a few Bash-Bazouks, who skirmished feebly with our advanced line.

While these movements were being made, Lieut.-Colonel Prince Don-donkov-Korsakoff's flying detachment, which had pushed forward as far as the village of Taganlow, continued sending patrols on the other side of the Saganlong, but without encountering any of the enemy's forces. On July 11, the Grivan detachment was near the village of Karakliss, upon the Euphrates. All is tranquil in this canton. The Kurds continue to make their submission, and Vely Pachis fortifies himself in his old position.

CRITICAL STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The news from Trebizond, *rid* Trieste, dated the 6th instant, state that a Russian corps, commanded by General Sussulhoff, had gained a success over some Turkish detachments at Kinprickei. It was within three hours' march of Erzeroum. The armament of Erzeroum was not then completed. The inhabitants of the town had received orders not to abandon the place, and all hate men were summoned to oppose the Russians.

The advices of the 7th state that the postal communications between Kars and Erzeroum are interrupted. The Russians had advanced as far as Kaprio, on the road to Erzeroum. Ten thousand Bash-Bazouks had arrived at Erzeroum.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SWEABORG.

ADMIRAL PENAUD'S REPORT.

THE Minister of Marine has received the following report from Admiral Penaud, dated off Sweaborg, August 11:—"At half-past 7 in the morning of the 8th, 16 English bomb vessels, each having 1 mortar; 5 French bomb vessels, having each 2 of these pieces; and a siege battery of 4 mortars of nearly 10-inch bore, which, during the 6 hours' darkness of the 2 previous nights, I had established on the Islet Abraham at 2,200 metres from the place, opened fire against Sweaborg. I am happy to announce to you, Monsieur le Ministre, that this operation succeeded perfectly; it was not only a simple cannonade which the squadrons have made against Sweaborg, it was a real bombardment, the important results of which have exceeded my utmost hopes. In less than 3 hours after we had begun to throw shells, we could observe that they caused considerable damage in the fortress. Numerous fires rapidly broke out on several points at the same time, and we soon saw the flames rising above the dome of the church situated in the northern part of the island Est-Swartoe. That building, however, was not touched, and it may be said to be the only one on the islands Vargon and Swartoe which was respected by our projectiles. Terrible explosions were soon after heard, at four different times; the fire had reached the magazines filled with powder and shells. The last two explosions were particularly violent, and they must have caused the enemy enormous losses both in men and *materiel*. For several minutes the explosions of shells continued. The bombardment ceased this morning at half-past 4; it consequently lasted for two days and two nights, during which time Sweaborg presented the appearance of a vast fiery furnace. The fire, which still continues its ravages, has destroyed nearly the whole place, and consumed storehouses, magazines, barracks, different Government establishments, and a great quantity of stores for the arsenal. The fire of our mortars was so accurate that the enemy, fearing that the three-decker which was moored across the channel between Sweaborg and the island of Bak-Holmen would be destroyed, had her brought into the port during the night. The Russians have received a serious blow and losses, the more severe, as on the side of the Allied squadron the loss is confined to 1 English sailor killed, and a few slightly wounded. The enemy's efforts returned our fire very vigorously, and did not slacken it until the moment of the explosions abovementioned, but the precision of our long range guns gave us an uncontested superiority over those of the Russians. Every one in the division fulfilled his duty with ardour, devotion, and courage; the crews evinced admirable enthusiasm, and have deserved well of the Emperor and of the country. I am perfectly satisfied with the means of action placed at my disposal. The mortar-vessels and gun-boats rendered immense services, and they fully realise everything that was expected from them. The siege battery produced very fine results, and it may be said that it was from an enemy's island, on which we had hoisted the French flag, that the most destructive shots were fired. In this affair, as under every other circumstance which has taken place since our flags have been united, Rear-Admiral Dundas and I have acted with common accord. The example of the perfect good understanding which exists between the chiefs has had

the best effect on the spirit of the crews of the two squadrons, which in reality only form one in the moment of action. Every one has only one object—to rival each other in zeal, and cause the enemy the greatest possible mischief, and the success of a vessel of one of the two nations was applauded by the other with the same cries of enthusiasm as if it had been gained by its own flag. Doubtless, the bombardment of Sweaborg will exercise considerable influence on the Russian people, who have now acquired the conviction that their fortified places and their arsenals are not completely sheltered from the attacks of the Allied navies, which may and must hope to be able to deal destruction on the enemy's coast without suffering any very considerable injury themselves. In sending you more circumstantial report of this affair, I shall have the honour to ask of you a reward for the offices, sailors, and soldiers who distinguished themselves most in the battle.—I am, &c.,

"PENAUD."

ADMIRAL DUNDAS'S DESPATCHES.

DESPATCHES were received at the Admiralty on Monday last, from Rear-Admiral Dundas, dated before Sweaborg, August 13, of which the following are the most important extracts:—

"My former reports will have informed their Lordship's that, during the past year, and in the course of the last five months, the enemy has been actively employed in strengthening the defences of the place, and completing the sea defences, by erecting batteries on every advantageous position and commanding every practicable approach to the harbour in this intricate navigation. It has therefore formed no part of my plan to attempt a general attack by the ships on the defences; and the operations contemplated by Rear-Admiral Penaud and myself were limited to such destruction of the fortress and arsenal as could be accomplished by means of mortars.

"The intricate nature of the ground, from rocks a-wash and reefs under water, rendered it difficult to select positions for the mortar vessels at proper range. In completing the arrangements for this purpose, I have derived the greatest advantage from the abilities of Captain Sullivan, of her Majesty's ship *Merlin*, and the positions ultimately chosen were in a curved line on either side of the Islet of Oterhall, with space in the centre reserved for the mortar vessels of the French squadron, as concerted with Rear-Admiral Penaud.

"The extremes of the line were limited, with reference to the extent of the range and the distance from the heavily-armed batteries of Bak-Holmen to the eastward, and of Stora-Rantan to the westward of Sweaborg; and a most effective addition to the force of the allied squadrons consisted in a battery of 4 light mortars established by Admiral Penaud on an islet in advance of Oterhall.

"To carry these arrangements into effect, the various forces were distributed to the care of the different officers in command, and the whole were anchored on the evening of the 7th instant in position, in readiness to warp into action, and hawsers for that purpose were laid out before daylight. Much assistance in towing was rendered by the officers of the gun-boats, and great praise is due to all concerned for their active exertions. In the course of the same night, Rear-Admiral Penaud had commenced the establishment of his battery with sand-bags, on the rocks within Oterhall, but the active arrangements could not be completed before the morning of the 9th instant. During the whole of the previous day, the royal standard of Russia was flying upon the citadel of Gustafsvard, but was not afterwards observed.

"The success of our operations being dependent entirely on the state of the weather, and the rapidity with which shells could be thrown, no time was lost in trying the ranges of the mortars, which proved to be accurate, and general firing commenced soon after seven o'clock.

"The gun-boats, having been previously armed with additional guns of heavy calibre, removed temporarily from ships of the line, and the *Stork* and *Snapper* gun-boats being armed with Lancaster guns, I availed myself of the experience of Captain Hewlett to direct the fire of the two latter vessels to the greatest advantage, and his attention was specially directed to the three-decked ship of the line moored to block the passage between Gustafsvard and Bak-Holmen.

"Commander Preedy, of the ship bearing my flag, was directed to take the *Starling* and four other gun-boats under his orders, and to manoeuvre and attack the batteries in front of the mortar-vessels, towards the west extremity of the line. The remainder were distributed in a similar manner to stations assigned to them, with orders to engage the batteries and protect the mortar-vessels, under the general direction of Capt. Ramsay, assisted by Captains Glasse, Vansittart, and Stewart.

"On the evening of the 8th inst., I had despatched Captain Key in her Majesty's ship *Amphion*, to proceed off Storo Miölo, and to place himself under the orders of Captain Wellesley, of her Majesty's ship *Cornwallis*; and I instructed the latter officer to employ the *Hastings* and the *Amphion*, and to take advantage of any proper opportunity to engage the enemy at the east end of the Island of Sandham. Captain Yelverton, in her Majesty's ship *Arrogant*, was detached to the westward with the *Cossack* and *Cruiser* under his orders, and was directed to occupy the attention of troops which were observed to be posted on the Island of Drumsio, and to watch the movements of small vessels which had been noticed occasionally in creeks in that direction.

Early in the day I observed that the detached squadrons in both directions had opened fire upon the enemy, and the action was general upon all points. A rapid fire of shot and shells was kept up from the fortress for the first few hours upon the gun-boats, and the range of the heavy batteries extended completely beyond the mortar vessels; but the continued motion of the gun-boats, and the able manner in which they were conducted by the officers who commanded them, enabled them to return the fire with great spirit, and almost with impunity, throughout the day.

"About ten o'clock in the forenoon, fires began first to be observed in the different buildings, and a heavy explosion took place in the Island of Vargon, which was followed by a second about an hour afterwards; a third, and far more important explosion, occurred about noon, on the Island of Gustafsvard, inflicting much damage upon the defences of the enemy, and tending greatly to slacken the fire from the guns in that direction.

"The advantage of the rapidity with which the fire from the mortars had been directed, was apparent in the continued fresh conflagrations, which spread extensively on the Island of Vargon. The intricate nature of the reefs on which the gun-boats had occasionally grounded, compelled me also to recall them before sunset, and the fire of the enemy was slack. The boats of the fleet were then ordered to be assembled, with rockets, before dark; and, under the direction of Captain Caldwell, in command of the ship bearing my flag, they maintained a continuous fire for upwards of three hours, which was attended with considerable success, causing fresh fires, and adding much to the general conflagration.

"At daylight on the morning of the 10th inst., the positions of several of the mortar vessels had been advanced within easier range, and the gun-boats were again directed to engage.

"The three-decked ship, which had been moored by the enemy to block and defend the channel between Gustafsvard and the island of Bak-Holmen, had been withdrawn during the night to a more secure position, but the fire from the batteries was increased, and the engagement was renewed with activity on both sides; fires continued to burn without intermission within the fortress, and about noon a column of smoke, heavier and darker than any which yet had been observed, and succeeded by bright flames, gave signs that the shells had reached combustible materials in the direction of the arsenal; the exact situation was at first concealed from our view, but the flames continuing to spread, it was soon evident that they extended beyond the Island of Vargon, and that many buildings on the Island of Swartoe were already in progress of destruction. By the judicious management of the officers of artillery, a steady fire was kept up during the whole of the following night.

"The rocket-boats in the evening were again assembled, when the gun-boats were recalled, and proceeded successively in separate divisions. The first, under the direction of Captain Seymour, of the *Pembroke*, made excellent practice, at a distance of about 2,000 yards from the fortress; the second, under the direction of Captain Caldwell, at a later period of the night, succeeded also in adding to the fires already burning; but the glare

of the flames exposing the boats to the view of the enemy, they maintained their ground, under a smart fire of bursting shells, with steady gallantry.

"Considering the extent of injury which had now been inflicted upon the enemy, and reflecting that few buildings of importance remained to be destroyed on the island of Vargon, and that those still standing upon Swartoe were at the extreme extent of our range, and in positions where no shells had yet reached them, I was of opinion that no proportionate advantage was to be gained by continuing the fire during another day. I accordingly despatched Captain Seymour of her Majesty's ship *Pembroke*, to communicate with Rear-Admiral Penaud, and arrangements were immediately concerted, and orders given to cease firing after day-light. Little fire, except at the rocket-boats, had been returned by the enemy during the night, and it ceased almost entirely on his side before day-light, although the sea defences in general were little injured. I am thankful to say that the casualties have been fewer than could possibly have been expected under the fire to which those who were engaged were repeatedly exposed. Some of the most severe injuries are those which unfortunately occurred from explosions of the rockets in the boats of the *Hastings* and *Vulture*.

"I have much satisfaction in reporting in the most favourable manner on the conduct of the officers, seamen, and marines under my command; and I transmit, for their Lordship's information, the lists of the officers and others who were employed on the various detached services which occurred during the operations.

"Late on the evening of the 10th inst., her Majesty's ship *Merlin*, under the command of Captain Sullivan, struck upon an unknown rock on ground which he had himself repeatedly examined, while conducting me along the line of the mortar vessels. No blame whatever can attach to this officer on the occasion."

DETAILED ACCOUNTS.

On the 7th August, at 9.30 a.m., signal was made from the flagship, "Outward and leeward-most ships weigh." The fleet, consisting of 9 British line-of-battle ships, 13 steam-frigates and sloops, 16 mortar vessels, and an equal number of gun-boats sailed from Nargen, and after a pleasant run of five hours, anchored at a distance of about 5,000 yards from the fortress of Sweaborg. In the course of the same evening the French fleet joined, and immediately commenced throwing up a mortar battery on the island of Langorn, situated some 2,000 yards to the north of the cluster of five islands which form the principal part of the fortress of Sweaborg. During the 8th, both fleets were busily employed preparing for action; the mortar vessels were towed into position, about 3,700 yards from the fortress, with 400 fathoms each of cable to "haul and veer on," as circumstances might require. This arrangement proved of the greatest advantage, and much credit is due to the originator of this excellent idea. The line-of-battle ships remained in the same order they had at first anchored in. The steamers *Magiciene*, *Vulture*, and *Euryalus*, took up a position in rear of the mortar vessels, for the purpose of being ready to give them and the gun-boats any assistance they might require. The *Lightning* and *Locust* were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to tow out any gun or mortar vessels that might be injured, or otherwise rendered incapable of remaining longer under fire; in fact, every possible arrangement having been made, which prudence and foresight could suggest, the signal was made from the flagship at 7.15 on the morning of the 9th, "Gun and mortar vessels open fire with shell." At 7.30 a.m. the first mortar was fired, and taken up along the whole line, the gunboats running in to within 3,000 yards, and getting their range. The enemy returned our fire very briskly with red-hot shot and shell, but, although their range was good, the damage inflicted was comparatively trifling, owing, principally, to the excellent handling of the gun-boats and mortar vessels, the former being continually on the move, and the latter hauling or veering on their 400 fathom cable, as soon as they found the Russian shot falling too close to be pleasant. At 10.20 the first Russian magazine exploded, and a fire broke out in the arsenal. About noon a second magazine exploded; and at 12.15 a most terrific explosion took place, followed by a succession of minor ones. The force of this was so immense that a battery of guns en barbette was literally blown to pieces by it. At 12.40 more magazines exploded; at this time, the dockyards, arsenal, barracks, all the Government buildings, storehouses, &c., were burning furiously. The sight was most grandly imposing. The yards and poops of the line-of-battle ships were crowded with the excited "tars," who cheered vociferously after every explosion, as only British sailors know how to cheer. To add to this frightful din, the liners *Cornwallis* and *Hastings*, and steam-frigate *Amphion*, opened their broadsides at the same moment; and, as if to crown the whole, the *Arrogant*, *Cossack*, and *Cruiser* chimed in with this bloody chorus, by commencing a heavy fire, with good effect, on a large body of troops which they chanced to spy on a small island to the eastward of the fortress. The cannonade continued with little abatement up to 8 o'clock p.m., when the gun-boat recall was hoisted. Several of the mortar vessels were also found to be injured from the quick and incessant firing, and had to be brought out to undergo repairs; those, however, which were not damaged, still kept up their fire, in conjunction with the French mortar battery, until 10.30 p.m., at which hour the rocket-boats from the fleet went in and kept up their part of the performance until daylight. The scene during the night was grand beyond description; the whole of Sweaborg appeared one mass of flame, the rockets and shells adding not a little to the awful splendour of the fiery landscape.

At 5.30 a.m., on the 10th, the fire again opened from our whole line, and continued throughout the day, at the end of which little appeared left to be done; all the mortars, French and English, were more or less injured. Some idea, however, of the services rendered by these vessels may be gathered from the fact that during the two days' bombardment not less than 1,000 tons of iron were thrown into a space of about half-a-mile in diameter, and that upwards of 100 tons of powder were expended. This, incredible as it may appear, applies only to the English mortar vessels, and does not include the quantity (which was equally large in proportion) used by our gallant Allies on that occasion.

On Friday night, the 10th inst., the rocket-boats again went in and played with great effect. On Saturday no firing took place, and Sunday was a day of rest. On that day everything was quiet and in repose; even the mighty deep bowed in reverence to a holy influence, and was still. The tolling of the bells at Helsingfors was distinctly to be heard; the dull and plaintive sounds, mingled with the strains of sacred music from our men-of-war, came floating over the calm waters, and offered a strange and soothed contrast to the noise, turmoil, and excitement of the two preceding days.

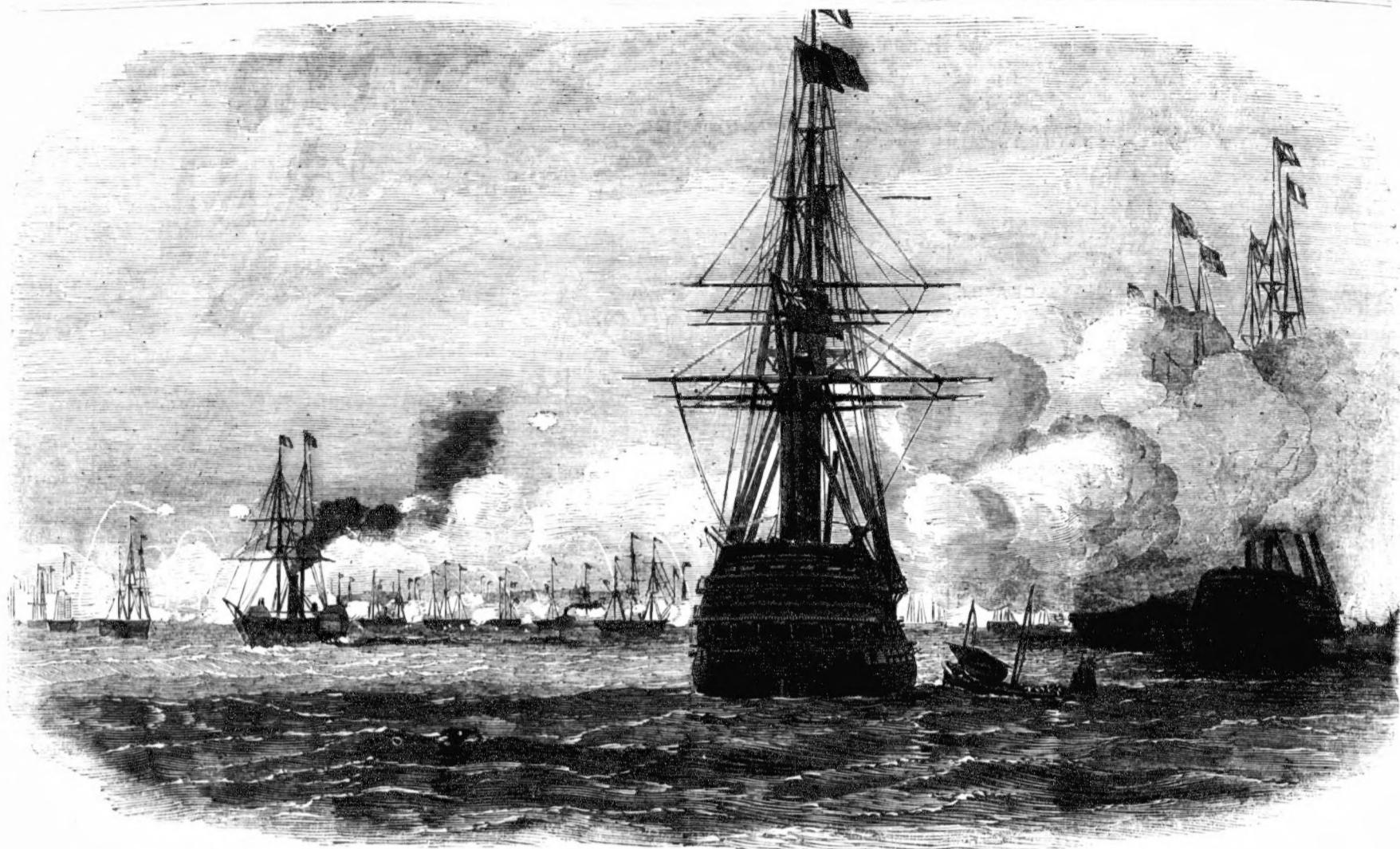
When the Allied fleets left Sweaborg on the morning of Monday, the 13th, what little remained of that fortress, once so renowned and formidable, was still on fire, having burnt, almost without interruption, during the space of three days and a half.

The amount of public property destroyed is estimated at £2,000,000, and that, too, without any loss to ourselves beyond one killed and a dozen or so wounded. The loss of the Russians is estimated at 1,500 men. Two French boats and an English one were sunk during the 10th, but the crews were saved. The French lost one man and had five wounded.

The following extract from a private letter will be read with interest. It is dated off Nargen, August 14:—

"We opened fire on the 9th at seven o'clock in the morning, and at ten the first Russian magazine blew up with an awful explosion and loss of life. We could perceive through our glasses, timbers, bricks, human bodies, and material blown up into the air in frightful heaps, and a part of the town set on fire. At 12.20 another magazine blew up, and several others in succession; we believed them to have been shell magazines, for the destruction of human life must have been immense at every explosion. Guns, beams, shot and shell were seen high in air; yet one remarkable circumstance must be told to show the cool courage of the Russian, and their contempt at death:—A Russian gunner, amidst the carnage, was seen to reload his gun, single handed, although a magazine had exploded alongside without touching him; he had actually primed his gun, and was laying it, when down he went, gun and everything about him.

"The Admiralty-house caught fire at noon, and presented a splendid spectacle, more particularly when night came on. The roof at this time fell in, and the outer walls were red-hot, looking like transparencies. We threw in shells at intervals during the whole night, and the next morning



THE ATTACK ON THE FORTIFICATIONS OF SWEABORG, ON AUGUST 9.

some of the mortar vessels were moved nearer in-shore, and the firing was redoubled, but by night nearly all our mortars were disabled, three of them had burst, splitting them so completely in halves that they looked as though they were sawn asunder."

RUSSIAN DESPATCHES.

The "Invalide Russe" of the 12th inst., contains the following despatches:

"Aug. 10, 2.10 p.m.—Since nine o'clock this morning, the enemy's fire has redoubled in vivacity. Up to noon our assailants fired chiefly against the works of Wester-Swartoe and the Nicholas battery, upon the Island of Rantan, but without success. His cannonade was then again turned

against the fortress. According to an approximate estimate, he fired 3,000 times yesterday against the Island of Sandham. The fire was chiefly by broadsides, or a rolling fire. To-day he has thrown nearly 4,800 shells against the Isle of Wester-Swartoe and the Nicholas battery, nearly all the shells, to judge by their explosions, being seven-pounders.

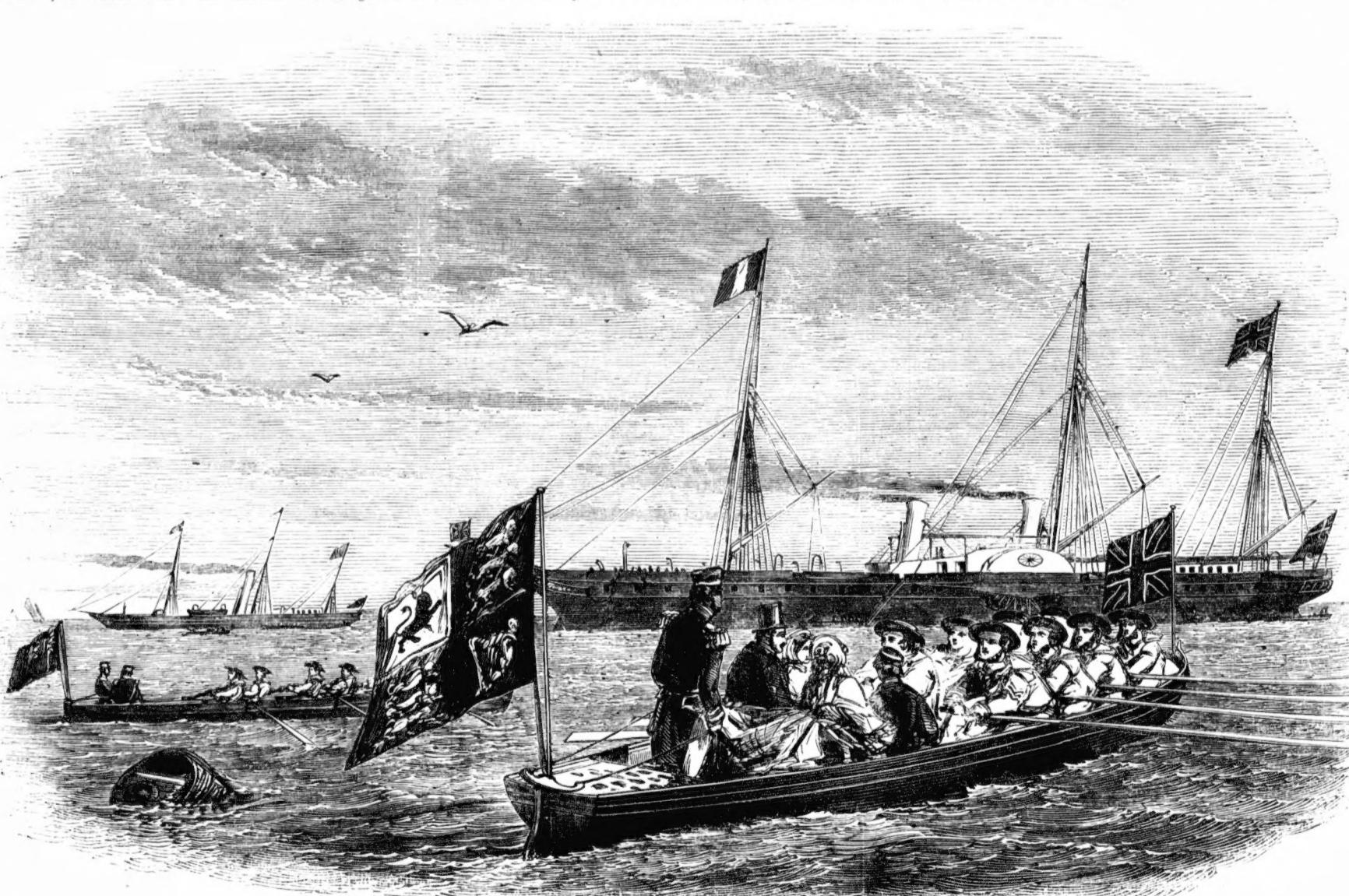
"10.17 p.m.—The bombardment of to-day has, it is certain, occasioned no damage either to the fortifications or the batteries, or guns. During the last two days the fire has destroyed some buildings upon the island of Stura-Ester Swartoe."

A great many letters were received in Hamburg, on the 18th, from Russian and neutral ports on the Baltic, and they agreed in stating that

the different rock-hewn fortresses on the isles generally known as Sweaborg have suffered no damage from the bombardment. The letters also agreed in stating that outside the forts a considerable conflagration took place, the result of the bombardment and the prodigious quantity of congreve rockets thrown from the allied ships; and that this circumstance may have led the commanders into an error as to the immediate effect of their cannonade.

BOMBARDMENT OF RIGA.

It was rumoured at Hamburg on Sunday last, that on the 10th two English steamers bombarded the coast batteries of Riga for 5 hours and that the latter suffered great damage.



THE ROYAL PARTY EMBARKING ON BOARD THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT YACHT, ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.

AUGUST 25, 1855.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

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VICTORIA AND EUGENIE.

SWEABORG AND OTHER RUSSIAN FORTRESSES IN THE BALTIC.

THE fortress of Sweaborg was the first formidable obstacle in the Gulf of Finland, and did the outpost duty, as it were, for the great military *entrepôts* of St. Petersburg. On the east this fortress also partially commanded the most navigable channel for vessels of a large draught of water, on the voyage to Cronstadt, which is distant 163 miles, on the St. Petersburg side.

Sweaborg is composed of seven rocky islands, and is situated about three miles and a half from Helsingfors. It fell into the possession of Russia with the grand duchy of Finland; but, unlike Helsingfors, which was first regularly fortified by the late Emperors Alexander and Nicholas, Sweaborg had been a place of considerable strength under the Swedes. General Ehrenwald, an able Swedish officer, considering that these islands might be rendered a formidable stronghold, and might enable Sweden to maintain her power in the Baltic, in spite of the ambitious designs of Russia, projected the plan of their fortification. Previously, however, ships were there built and repaired for the Swedish navy. The works were commenced in the year 1748, but were not completely finished when acquired by the Russians, who have continued making improvements, and devising every means of rendering the place impregnable. They say, "The Swedes began, but we finished, the Gibraltar of the North." These works are stupendous. The walls are chiefly hewn granite, covered with earth, rising in some places to a height of 48 feet. The batteries, which commence on a level with the water, and rise in tiers one above another, are mounted, it is alleged, with nearly a thousand guns. In Wolf's Island, the principal of the group, there is a dry dock, capable of containing 11 or 12 frigates, which has been completely hollowed out of solid rock, the length being 300 feet, breadth 200, and depth 14 feet. At one extremity of this dock is a basin 200 feet square, closed at each end with sluice-gates, which serves for the entrance and exit of frigates, and for repairing and building ships. The stores and ammunition for the batteries are deposited in magazines on the edge of the water. The harbour can contain seven ships of the line and a few frigates.

The largest of the rocks is that called Gustavus's Sword, on which is built the residence of the Governor, with a sort of garden formed of mould brought from the main land, and a vast cistern, in which is heaped together a large quantity of snow in winter to furnish water to the garrison. Sweaborg, as above stated, has been called the Gibraltar of the North; it would seem, however, not with as much justice as was formerly thought, since the late bombardment shows it to be anything but impregnable. The islands flank each other, and all have the granite cut perpendicularly to a height of from 30 to 40 feet. The only passage by which the roadstead of Helsingfors, which one of the great war ports of Russia, can be reached, winds along these formidable isles, which are armed with 800 guns of large calibre. As Sweaborg only presents an unapproachable *coupure* of granite, a siege of it could not be made by land, and the place could only be reduced by famine. But it might be attacked and demolished from the sea by means of a bombardment, and this is what has just been executed with full success by the Anglo-French fleet, a bombardment which must have caused immense material losses to the Russian Government, by destroying the barracks, the different maritime establishments, and the arsenal of the fort.

In the reconnaissance effected towards the close of July last, the Allied admirals had ascertained that these formidable means of defence had been considerably increased since the last campaign. Seven additional batteries had been constructed, or were in progress of construction, on the islands of Bak-Holmen, Rungs-Holmen, and Sandham, and a frigate was drawn up across the channel to the east of Rungs-Holmen. Independently of the three-decker moored last year across the eastern channel of Sweaborg, to be sunk there if necessary, two large ships sunk in the western passage, between the islands of Langswor and West-Swartz (the most western of those forming the group of Sweaborg), as also a two-decker, stationed in the middle of that same passage, prevent the Allied squadrons from moving round the place, and penetrating into the roads of Helsingfors. The Russians had likewise considerably extended the fortifications on the southern part of Helsingfors, and three new batteries, placed above each other, added to the defence of the western part of the town. The island of Drumsio itself has been recently occupied, and a powerful battery established at its southern extremity. It was in presence of these difficulties that the bombardment was resolved upon and executed on the 9th instant, with complete success, by the Allied naval forces.

Sweaborg was begun by the King of Sweden, Gustavus III. In the revolution which dethroned Gustavus IV., in 1808, and which afforded Russia the opportunity, long sought for, of invading Finland, the impregnable fortress was given up without combat to the Russian general, Barclay de Tolly, by a traitor who forgot what was due to his country to satisfy his political passions. Sweaborg has a population of about 4,000 persons. Its barracks can contain more than 12,000 men, and, besides its fine port, it has two basins to repair ships. The position of Sweaborg in relation to St. Petersburg may be compared to that of Sheerness with regard to Chatham. At St. Petersburg, the population must have heard the cannon and seen the flames, and must have known that the stores upon which Cronstadt is in great measure dependent were being destroyed.

Cronstadt, which commands the passage at the mouth of the Neva, was taken from the Swedes by Peter the Great, and first converted by him from a desert island into a harbour for his navy in 1710. The most invulnerable portion of the stronghold, a rampart of granite built in the sea for the protection of the shipping, was begun and finished under the superintendence of Admiral Greig (a Scotchman), who is styled the father of the Russian navy. Doubts are entertained whether the guns of Cronstadt completely command the northern passage; the Marquis de Custine, a keen inquirer, declares, that although he put himself to some trouble to learn as much, he could not find the Russian who would inform him of the fact.

The population of Cronstadt is about 45,000; of Helsingfors, which is the capital of the district, 10,000; and of Sweaborg about 4,000, the greater part of whom are tradesmen and merchants, who depend on supplying the garrison and fleet, and who, as if the Russians anticipated on this occasion a serious attack from the Allies, have been removing to Helsingfors during the last few weeks.

The three fortresses—Cronstadt, Sweaborg, and Helsingfors—could not have been intended for the defence alone of St. Petersburg. They tell their own tale. The magnitude of their works, and the incessant activity in the arsenals during the last half century, should have clearly warned Europe that these huge fortresses were intended as a basis of operations against its liberties and the rights of its rulers.

HAMBURG PAPER publishes an inflammatory letter from "Archbishop Innocent" to Prince Gortschakoff, encouraging the Prince to continue to fight for "that orthodox faith of which Russia is now the Noah's ark." He also congratulates the General on having the same name (Michael) as that archangel who "combated the infernal serpent, and sent him to hell." "It is a good omen," adds the Archbishop.

THE PEACE PARTY IN RUSSIA.—During the stay of the Prince of Prussia in the neighbourhood of St. Petersburg, he was surrounded exclusively by members of the peace party in Russia; they bewailed incessantly that Russia should have been involved in war, could not for the life of them understand how a war could have arisen from such insignificant causes, and grieved over its continuance as highly detrimental to the interests of Russia. It is worthy of note, that they repeatedly estimated the cost of the present war at 900,000 silver roubles per day.

GENERAL READ.—The Russian officer, whose death is reported in another column, was a person of considerable distinction, and a year ago was discharging the duties of Imperial Lieutenant of the Caucasian provinces, in the absence of Prince Woronzow, and before General Mavrieff had been nominated his successor. The father of General Read, born at Montrose, was a civil engineer, who entered the service of the Emperor Alexander in early life, and settled in Russia, of which his son, afterwards General Read, was a native.

STORES FOR THE CRIMEA.—The saw-mills of the Doubs and Jura are at present busy employed in preparing planks for the army of the East, probably in anticipation of a further supply of wooden huts for the winter. One of the Rhone steamers carried to Marseilles on Tuesday week a full cargo of planks ready arranged to be carried out to the East. The same day, 1,200 barrels of gunpowder were forwarded from Lyons to Marseilles by railway, and as much had been sent there two days before. As to bombs and other projectiles, the quantities lately despatched from Lyons have been immense.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO FRANCE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

ENGLAND and France are the best friends in the world. They love each other like two sisters who have been separated for a long time. They cannot possibly imagine how they could ever have quarrelled. The simple fact was, they didn't know enough of each other. They were introduced as friends for the first time at the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, and ever since then, their intimacy has gone on increasing. One year, France was so full of affection, that a British Lord Mayor, happening to land on her ground, she seized upon him, and for a week made a hero of him. At another time, the Prince Consort ventured to place his polished leather boot on Boulogne soil, and before he had taken three steps forward, cannon were booming and tricolour flags waving around him.

"Welcome to France" is now the Frenchman's first lesson in English. Ten years ago, it used to be "Ros-heef," or "Perfid Albion," or some words even more derogatory to our national feelings. Everybody will agree with us, that it is pleasanter to receive the "welcome" than the insult. It sounds very pretty in broken French.

Thank Heaven for the change that has taken place in the national feeling. It has opened to us one of the most beautiful countries in the world, given to us the *droit d'entrée* into the large garden called France. The good-natured people that inhabit it, smile and force civilities upon us, inviting us to partake of the fruits of their soil. When we get tired of the smoky and heavy sky of London, we may run over to this bright land, and fill our lungs with sun-warmed air, and no one will look at us with jealous suspicion, or turn away with insulting indifference, as soon as the last bank-note is changed. The histories of the two countries, will begin afresh the first chapter, dating from her Majesty's visit. The old "Tides of the Wars" will only be read as curious records of past folly, which, instead of raising national pride, will only cause regret that such terrible outrages ever occurred. The time of peace has arrived. The big vessels that ever guarded our coast—the house-dogs of war—will change into ships sinking deep into the water with the weight of merchandise. If any come to brave us, they will not be armed with swords and muskets, but with carpet bags and umbrellas; and the only fights that will occur, will be for a front place at the Custom House to have the luggage quickly examined.

THE SQUADRON OF HONOUR.

The advanced squadron, under the command of Admiral Sir T. Cochrane, K.C.B., appointed to precede her Majesty and suite, left Spithead on Wednesday, the 15th inst., to make certain of being in its destined position for the part it had to play in connection with this important national event. It numbered nine vessels in all, from the gigantic *Neptune*, with its 120 heavy guns, the flag-ship of the squadron, to the swift *Fire Queen*, its little despatch yacht. The following is a formal list of the vessels comprising it:—The *Neptune*, 120, Captain Hutton (flag); the *St. George*, 120, Captain Eyres, C.B.; the *Sanspareil*, 71, Captain Woodford J. Williams; the *Malacca*, 17, Captain Arthur Farquhar; the *Rosamond*, 6, paddle sloop, Commander Crofton; the *Scallop*, 6, Lieutenant Lowther; the *Rolla*, 6, Lieutenant Fenwick; the *Fire Queen*, despatch yacht, Master-Commander Paul; the *Sprightly*, steam tender, Acting-Master George Allen.

About eleven o'clock on the morning of the 17th, the tall masts of the ships of the squadron hove in sight of Boulogne; the dark columns of smoke from the steam-ships and tenders, sufficiently indicating to the crowds on the jetty the direction of their course. The little *Fire Queen* first anchored a short distance off the mouth of the harbour, and was soon followed by the *Neptune*, the *St. George*, the *Sanspareil*, the *Malacca*, the *Scallop*, the *Rolla*, and the *Sprightly* steam tender.

As the squadron anchored in Boulogne Roads, a salute was fired from a battery on the left of the harbour. The *Rosamond*, which had arrived about two o'clock in the morning with her Majesty's equipages and the royal servants, shortly afterwards steamed out and took up a position among the other vessels of the squadron.

THE VOYAGE FROM OSBORNE.

Her Majesty, with his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal, went on board the *Victoria and Albert* Yacht, at Osborne Bay, at seven in the evening of Friday. The royal party dined on board, and retired to rest at an early hour.

At half-past four on Saturday morning the yacht weighed anchor, and proceeded on her voyage. The *Victoria and Albert* was accompanied by her tender, the *Fairy*, and also by the *Irene* and *Vivid*, two of the Trinity-house steam-vessels, sister ships, celebrated for their speed. The morning was superb, the sky serene and bright, the sea unruffled, and so rapid was the motion of the yacht, that it was soon seen by those who had the direction of her, that, unless her way was stopped, the royal squadron would arrive at Boulogne before the preparations for the reception of its august freight were completed; or, what was of more immediate consequence, before there was sufficient water in the harbour to allow the entrance of a vessel of such extraordinary size and tonnage as the *Victoria and Albert*.

At half-past eight the royal convoy was off Beachy Head, and at ten off Dungeness. Hitherto, all the way from Osborne Bay, there had been something like a race (after their own quiet fashion) going on between the *Fairy*, the *Irene*, and the *Victoria and Albert*, the little *Fairy* bustling along after them as a young jockey on his pony watches and tends the race-horse in his trial of speed. Neither party had gained much on the other, but the merits and sea-going qualities of the new royal yacht drew expressions of admiration as well from all on board as from those who watched her progress with pleased though jealous eyes. Off Dungeness the rate of speed was diminished, and the squadron slowly steamed along the coast, bearing slightly towards the French shore.

At Fairleigh, the *Victoria and Albert*, in all its pride and freshness, came up with the old *Victoria and Albert* (now re-christened the *Osborne*), comparatively toiling like a drudge along that course over which its younger rival was careering swiftly. A boat from the *Victoria and Albert* visited the *Osborne*, which had left the Isle of Wight at 12 on the previous evening, and communicated fresh orders. The royal squadron then proceeded on its course, and the Queen of England quitted her island home, escorted as the Sovereign of the Seas should be—by a worthy fleet; but, unlike most Sovereigns of England, who, thus accompanied, have sought the shores of France, bearing with her the olive branch of peace.

THE ARRIVAL AT BOULOGNE.

When the royal yacht had steamed to within about four miles from Boulogne, Captain Smithett, who piloted her, waited a few minutes either for the tide or for the arrival of the steamers forming the royal escort, or for both, and then the *Victoria and Albert*, conspicuous by her three masts, her great size, and fine proportions, steamed majestically for the harbour. She carried the royal standard of England at the main, the tricolor at the fore, the union jack at the bows, and the royal ensign at the stern. The English men-of-war forming the squadron of honour were drawn up outside the harbour, and formed an imposing spectacle. Each ship had the British ensign and the tricolor floating at the main, and each gave innumerable flags to the wind. At 25 minutes past 1, the first note of welcome was given by the sharp ring of a brass gun at the battery on the Capucine side, and one after another the royal salute came distantly booming upon the ears of the royal visitors, who could now distinctly see from the deck the fine cathedral-like dome of the church in the Upper Town, and the clean stone houses of the Haute Ville. The English men-of-war now took up the mimic thunder, and broadside after broadside pealed from them. The ships were soon enveloped in smoke, and when it had cleared away and the royal yacht had neared the squadron, every ship appeared with main yards. As the *Victoria and Albert* drew still nearer to the shore, a long dark streak was seen stretching along the heights for miles to the right and left of the town. Then wreaths and puffs of smoke, the gleam of bayonets, and, by and by, the distant rattle of musketry converted the long dark streak into lines of French soldiers. They not only crowned the heights, but wherever a lower ridge upon the cliffs gave "cogne de vantage" to a company of infantry there were drawn up Chasseurs de Vincennes, or the light companies of a French infantry regiment, whose sharp volleys alternated with the deep-mouthed welcome of the ordnance of the port.

When the Royal yacht crossed the bar, at 15 minutes to 2, loud hurrahs broke from the crowd upon the left jetty. On the right jetty, along the lower stage near the water, was one unbroken line of French infantry, who presented arms as the Royal yacht passed. Bands of music were stationed at intervals on both sides of the jetty, and the wonderfully spirited and vigorous roll of the French drums was continuous. The spectacle was now extremely striking. The quay contained an immense multitude. Tricoloured flags and British ensigns waved in profusion from every house, and the whole port was gay with streamers, flags, and garlands. Every window had its group of fair spectators. Opposite the Dépot de Bagages was seen a square pavilion or small temple-like edifice, open at the sides, and decorated in the style of the *loggia* of the Vatican, which, as it appeared the most conspicuous object along the quay, was correctly supposed to be the place where the Emperor awaited the arrival of his Royal visitors. As soon as the *Victoria and Albert* drew alongside this pavilion her Majesty appeared at the ship's side, and gracefully acknowledged the salutations of the Emperor. A stage was thrown on board, and Prince Albert handed her Majesty forward; but, no sooner had the Queen put her foot on it and left the deck, than, as on her first touching the soil of France, the Emperor, who had previously dismounted, came forward, took her Majesty by the hand, and saluted her on both cheeks—a salute customary among royal personages on such occasions. The manner in which Prince Albert handed her Majesty forward, the Emperor's offering and her Majesty's reception of the salute, were especially noted as exceedingly graceful, natural, and unaffected. The English present, who were not aware of royal etiquette in such matters, seemed at first a little taken by surprise, and then responded to what many of them supposed an unusual act of amity on the part of the allied Sovereigns with three hearty cheers.

THE DEPARTURE FOR PARIS.

After the Emperor had cordially shook hands with Prince Albert, the Princess Royal, and the Prince of Wales, he gave his hand to the Queen, led her down the stage to the pavilion, within which state chairs were placed on a dais, and here her Majesty, seated, received the congratulations of the civic authorities and the English residents. After a brief pause, the Emperor led her Majesty to one of the Royal carriages. The Princess Royal took her place beside the Queen, and Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales took the opposite seats, while the Emperor mounted his horse, and rode upon her Majesty's right hand. The *carriage* proceeded rapidly along the line of route towards the station amidst a clangour of cheers, and all the joyful sounds that could be elicited from more than 12 regimental bands performing "God Save the Queen," from every point of time.

The superb triumphal arch over the entrance to the station attracted the Queen's especial observation, and her Majesty appeared highly delighted with the extraordinary reception which greeted her on every step. On alighting, she was received by the directors of the Northern Railway, who conducted the Emperor and his royal guests through the grand salons to the platform, where the Emperor handed her Majesty and the members of the Royal Family into the imperial saloon carriage. The Queen was here again greeted with renewed shouts of welcome. Just before her Majesty entered the carriage, several large bouquets, composed of the choicest flowers from Baron Rothschild's own garden in Paris, were placed within it.

The lateness of the Queen's arrival, and the long journey of nearly 100 miles to be accomplished before evening, had the effect of hastening the royal departure, and at a quarter after two o'clock the train moved out of the station under a general salute of the troops and a salvo of artillery from the heights.

The train was under the especial conduct of M. Petiet, chef du mouvement of the railway. He was accompanied on the engine by Mr. Crampston, the celebrated English engineer, whose locomotives are used almost universally in France. The first few miles of this line run along the sea-shore, and the country does not afford to the traveller any very elevated notion of the beauty of French landscape. The pretty village of Montreuil—reached shortly after three o'clock—was the first point of interest at which the train halted. The station was prettily decorated, and "Welcome to France" was emblazoned in large characters across the platform. The people were in ecstasy when the sadoon carriage drew up, and "Le Roi l'Empereur," coupled with shouts in honour of the Empress and of the Queen resounded on every side until the train left the station.

The country henceforward to Abbeville has more of a champaign character. The harvest was everywhere in full operation, and the day being beautifully bright, her Majesty had an excellent opportunity of looking about her and viewing French scenery. At many points of the road knots of peasants, relinquishing for the moment their labours, formed happy groups of loyal spectators, vying with each other in endeavouring to give expression to their sentiments of loyalty to the Emperor, and respect for the Queen of England.

The ancient town of Abbeville, remarkable for the picturesque beauty of its church, was reached at a quarter to four o'clock. Here great excitement prevailed. The National Guard were out in great numbers, and dragoons and foot soldiers lined the station and its approaches for some distance. A rapid transit through a beautiful line of country, brought the imperial and royal party to the junction of the Boulogne and Calais railways at Amiens at half-past four o'clock. For some distance before this station was reached, the elevated ground in its vicinity was thronged with spectators, who exhibited great enthusiasm at the presence of the Emperor and his royal guests. When the train drew up at the platform, the bishop and clergy of the province, the members of the University and Lyceé, and the mayor and municipal authorities, were in attendance to welcome her Majesty. Two squadrons of Cuirassiers, a company of the 67th Regiment, and the Municipal Guard of the district, lined the station, the bands playing "God Save the Queen." The Emperor here invited his illustrious guests to alight, which her Majesty did for a few moments only. On leaving the imperial carriage, as well as upon her return, the Queen was greeted with loud applause by the spectators within the station—a compliment which her Majesty graciously acknowledged. Leaving Amiens, the illustrious travellers passed rapidly on to Breteuil, which was reached at a quarter after five o'clock. The pretty village of Clermont next came in sight, and here the preparations which its inhabitants had made were rewarded by a brief stoppage of the train, which the clergy and municipal authorities availed themselves of to pay their respects to the Emperor and his guests. On leaving Clermont the department of the Seine was entered, and from this point to Paris a continuous succession of interesting scenery presented itself.

Numbers of persons were in waiting at the different stations, anxious to catch a sight of the Emperor and his royal guests, but no further stoppage took place until the arrival of the train in Paris.

THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE QUEEN'S RECEPTION.

It is nearly four centuries and a half since an English Sovereign has entered Paris, accompanied by the display suitable to so exalted a rank. And what a difference between the two events! Henry the Fifth, worn from the heat of battle, his armour stained with the blood of the invaded, followed by his conquering army and the silent curse of the mob. Victoria, the invited guest, fatigued from a long journey, accompanied by the troops her delighted host has placed about her, not to protect, but to do honour to her visit; and, as she passes through the crowd of strangers, the shouts that burst forth are those of welcome and delight at her presence.

One of the wonders of a Parisian fête is the magical rapidity with which all the decorations are produced and arranged. We are almost forced to believe that the French government keeps in readiness a stock of festive properties, ready to be used in the getting up of public spectacles. We have on several occasions recognised the tall new masts with flags and streamers arranged around them; and we have long been familiar with our old friends' gilt eagles that always make their appearance at these rejoicings. But their triumphal arches, sixty feet in span, spring up in a night, and wonderful statues, eighteen feet high, suddenly jump up on to their pedestals; we know very well that such wonders are worked expressly for the event, and are astounded at the rapidity of the work.

It was not until Friday night that workmen began to dig holes in the macadamised roadway of the Boulevards. Carts laden with timber, and

trucks filled with gilt ornaments and painted canvas, came pouring in from the side streets. All night through hammers were knocking in nails, and men were shouting. Torches were seen creeping up ladders and crossing beams, for the night was too dark for the men carrying them to be distinguished. Those who live in the tall houses on each side of the Boulevards could not have had a moment's sleep, for at all the windows lights were burning. The Café Anglais, the Maison Dorée, and other supper houses, were crowded with customers, who passed the night in watching the preparations.

Up to two o'clock on Saturday (three hours before the Queen was expected), the decorations were not completed. The skeletons of many of the *arc de triomphe* were still uncovered, and the tall masts had received only half of their full allowance of flags and garlands. The mob collected on the pathways was enormous, and yet every instant it increased, so that the shop-keepers grew alarmed, and were forced to shut up their *boutiques* earlier than they intended. Some of the windows and balconies which commanded a view of the procession had let for incredible prices, and exquisitely-dressed ladies were lolling over the cushion-covered railings. In front of some hotels, pastry cooks, carrying copper pans, from which a savory odour escaped, were elbowing their way towards the *porte cochère*, and drums were beating, and hussars on fat round horses were trotting slowly towards their appointed places. Although her Majesty was not expected for some hours, yet the pushing and the quarrels for the front ranks on the curbstone had commenced. But then the French quarrel and push in so polite a manner, that with us such things would not have been noticed. An *excusez* or a *parlez, monsieur*, was all we heard; still it was sufficient, because those who were reprimanded fell back, and looked for another opening.

We could not help wondering at the excessively fashionable appearance of the police, who were walking leisurely along the road. In their cocked hats, white trousers, and small waists, they looked like naval officers taking the air. Where could you see such a wonderfully dressed crowd but in Paris? The extreme prettiness and freshness of the costume, the extraordinarily small boots, and curiously arranged hair, fill you with amazement. Sometimes you see a man arrayed like a nobleman, with a woman, who from her not wearing a bonnet, you know to belong to the working classes; or a young lady passes by in a net cap, adorned with a forest of ribands, and wearing a white jacket, that sits to her form like a coat of plaster, arrayed like the "first lady of the land," although poor little soul she does not earn more than her forty sous a-day. So great was the enthusiasm created among the Parisians by her Majesty's visit, that the Minister of Police was obliged to forbid the erection of more than a certain quantity of decorations. If it had not been for the fear of blocking up the route, the number of triumphal arches, statues surrounded by flower beds, and ornamented pillars, would have been more than double. But the general effect could not have been more magnificent. Every house was covered with flags—some showed the English, French, Turkish, and Saracenian, arrayed in clusters in the spaces between the windows. Along the balconies were suspended velvet draperies and bright-coloured, gold-fringed cloths. Venetian illumination lamps of coloured paper, something like extended concertinas, were swinging from every post and sill. Golden lines stretched across the road, and from them waved flags and ornaments on which words of welcome had been painted.

The entire length of the road through which the procession had to pass, was lined with soldiers. On one side the National Guards were passing away the hours by smoking cigars, pipes, and cigarettes. Bottles of all shapes were handed about; coats were unbuttoned, and caps placed on bayonets. But, at the side, where the soldiers of the line were ranged, the discipline was more strict. Considering they were on the sunny side of the road, it was wonderful how they managed even to keep on their feet all the long time they were on duty.

As we wanted to see the entire length of the route prepared and ornamented to receive her Majesty, we, about 3 o'clock, took cab and made the best of our way to the Bois de Boulogne; we were told that at the village from which the wood takes its name, there was a very pretty evergreen arch, built by the cantonniers of the commune, but the sight was too far off. Beyond flags and Venetian lamps arranged in the foliage of the trees, there was no ornamentation worth mentioning, until we came to the Boulevard de l'Impératrice, where a lace trellis, ornamented with flowers, had been arranged to hide an unfinished portion of the embankment. In the Champs Elysées, immense poles, as high as ship masts, had been fixed into the ground, and from them floated flags and streamers, bearing the arms of the Allies. From the windows of the Exhibition building were suspended red velvet, on which the letter N was embroidered in gold. Flags and emblematic paintings formed the chief decorations, until we reached the Madeleine. Now, statues and arches began to make their appearance at every corner of a street. Some of the houses were so covered with flags, that their fronts appeared red; the large gilt letters on the balconies were completely hidden by them. On the house-tops were forests of them, fastened to every available place. We had scarcely passed the Madeleine before we came to an excellently well and boldly executed plaster group, representing France and England, with their arms round each other's necks. Around the pedestal a parterre of flowers had been arranged.

The effect, as you glanced down the road, was extremely striking. Sometimes a gust of air would agitate the banners and flags, and it appeared as if the whole scene was in motion. Long before we came to the Rue Lepelletier, we could distinguish the gigantic triumphal arch, erected by the artistes of the Opera. This structure was not only wonderful from its dimensions, but particularly so from the exquisite taste with which it had been arranged. It had been built up by the carpenters and machinists of the Opera in almost as short a time as it would have taken ordinary mortals to fix up a tent. The "scene painting" decoration had been executed by Messrs. Cambon and Thierry, who made the canvas sides as telling and brilliant as even a Frenchman could desire them to be. The interior of the arch was lined with crimson cloth, worked with golden bees. The style of architecture chosen was that of Louis the Fourteenth. All the theatrical profession seemed to be delighted with her Majesty's visit, for the artistes of the Opera Comique had also built up a very tasteful decoration. A column of white and gold, surmounted by an eagle, rose out of a lovely garden of blooming flowers. A green cloth extended the entire length across the road, and was the offering of an English assurance company, and wished long life to the Queen as enthusiastically as if she had been assured in the office. On arriving at the Rue Vivienne, we found each side of the Boulevard decorated with an immense "portico," erected by the agents de change. Near to them were two columns, offered by the Tribunal of Commerce. Huge statues, representing the city of Paris, Justice, England, and France, were arranged at the base of these columns. The Gymnase Theatre, as well as the Variétés, were decorated with scrolls and drapery, on which "welcome" was painted in conspicuous letters. The tall posts arranged on each side of the road, and the cords with flags suspended across from house to house, were offerings, according to the inscriptions, from different mercantile bodies of Paris. On all the boulevards, from that of Strasbourg to the Porte St. Denis, streamers and escutcheons were raised in every direction. On some of these flags were inscribed "Alma," "Bomarsund," "Sweaborg," and the names of other victories.

WAITING FOR THE QUEEN'S ARRIVAL.

It was reckoned that about one million was the number of the people that had hurried to witness the spectacle. We do not think that there could have been found a single room in Paris that was empty. All the hotels were filled to the garrets, with the strangers who, even two hours before the procession passed, were pouring into the town. Strange stories were told of the extravagant prices given for beds, and also the extraordinary apartments in which these beds were made up. From the garrets to the knife-house, there was not a wood flooring that was not made use of.

In the neighbourhood of the Strasbourg Railway Station the crowd was perhaps more numerous than at any other portion of the Boulevards. It was as if they wished to be able to boast that they had been the first to catch sight of Victoria, and shout "Vive la Reine."

The front of the Railway terminus had been decorated with all possible care and taste. The courtyard had been converted into a garden filled

with flowers, buds of every hue and order, and all about were lofty masts, bearing silken and gold embroidered flags. Inside the station an immense expense had been gone to by the company in order that the Queen should be received with a brilliant ceremony, the moment she set foot in Paris. The entire nature of the building had been altered. What had once been the passengers' room, was now converted into a Queen's Drawing-room. Every pillar was hung with crimson velvet, and bore a shield with the arms of one of the cities of France. Everywhere the walls were brilliant with crimson and gold. Evergreens and beds of the choicest flowers were planted at every corner, the cool green colour of the foliage forming a pleasant relief to the eye after the dazzling effects of the gold and crimson that surrounded you.

Galleries had been erected for the accommodation of the few hundreds who, out of the thousands who had implored for admission to the Railway station, had been happy enough to procure a ticket entitling them to a seat. Of course all those present were ladies. We never witnessed so vast a meeting of beautifully-dressed women, whose toilettes were the perfection of harmony in taste and extravagance.

Hearing that the Queen through some accident would be delayed for a few hours, we thought it better to run back again to the Boulevards, and see what the people were doing. We found everybody tired of waiting, but still ready to stop much longer if necessary. Occasionally the monotony of waiting would be varied by a dog getting into the centre of the cleared road, and being hooted along, just as is done at Epsom on the race course. We could not help noticing the variety of styles in which the French now wear their beards. Some of those ornaments resemble a dagger (tuff) with an immense handle (moustache), others wear the entire beard hanging down far on to their chests, and others have merely the chin covered and clipped close as a horse's fetlock.

On the roofs of the houses, gentlemen and ladies were performing regular gymnastic feats by balancing themselves on stone copings, and peeping from tents erected against chimney-stacks. The sergents-de-ville were collected in groups of three or four, smoking and chatting, and the ladies in the different balconies around would every now and then retire and come back again, nibbling a biscuit or sipping wine. We noticed that many of the gentlemen had brought opera-glasses with them, and were looking around the scene as coolly as if they had been in the pit of the opera looking around at the occupants of the boxes. Those who have not seen a gathering of French ladies, such as that we witnessed, cannot possibly imagine the perfection to which silken dresses can be made and worn; neither can they form any idea of the state of excellence in which hair may be dressed, or bonnets arranged, or shawls put on. How many thousand different kinds of costume you meet with! Now an Arab went past with a brown face, hidden in the white linen that fell from his *caban*. He is holding in his long, dark fingers a cigarette, and when he raises it to his mouth, you catch a glance of the bright-coloured clothing beneath his cloak. There were thousands of Zouaves and Turks, who were evidently not true followers of the Prophet, for if they caught sight of a wine-shop, instead of turning away, they instantly rushed towards the pewter-covered counter. What good-natured, amiable people are these French! In England, the mob would have been amusing itself by shouting and screaming—but they were simply chatting and laughing. Some of the ladies had brought their work with them—the same style of work that in England is so much hated by the gentlemen and adored by the ladies—little holes arranged into a pattern. By our side there was an Italian girl, minding a child, who was whipping her needle through the linen with a rapidity that made us wince each time her hand went round. She had hair as black as raven, and through the plaits at the back was placed a large ornamented silver knife. Her eyes were extremely quick and brilliant, and looked so savage, that, associating them and the knife together, we thought it better to "move on."

A horse came galloping along, making the people stretch out their necks to see what was the matter. We saw some twenty swelling throats thrust forward from the balcony above us, the little golden thread that supported the locket threatening to break, as they laughed silently at the figure of the fat horseman who had caused all the disturbance. He was a remarkably stout warrior, who shook all over when his horse trotted, so that he reminded us of a water-bed. His coat was covered with gold as thickly as a picture frame, and from his cocked hat sprang up a thick crop of plumes. "Who is that?" we asked. "That is the Marshal Magnan," was the reply. "Is he a brave and honest man?" we again inquired. "Sir," answered the man, looking at us with an awful glare, "Monsieur, a marshal of France is always brave and honest." Ah! we thought to ourselves, what a pity we are not all of us marshals of France!

The horses galloping up and down the road grew more numerous, and seemed to go faster than they did. There was evidently some news of the arrival. Orders were brought up by the Hussars on warm horses, with white foaming mouths, commanding the captains keeping the line to put their troops in proper order. Orders to carry arms were given in short sounds, something like barks, and pipes were tucked away, the ends of cigars thrown on to the ground, coats buttoned up, and caps put on. The National Guard were doing this; but the troops of the line, who appeared to be in better drill, were instantly formed into a compact hedge of men, with a railing of guns and bayonets.

How drearily the time passes! The beautiful ladies in the balconies were reading the evening newspapers, and showing their pretty teeth each time they gaped over the news. Lights had been brought into the different rooms, and, by the shadows they cast on to the ceiling, you perceived that dinner was going on. Many of the crowd retired to the cafés, and were drinking absinthe or coffee. The evening breeze was blowing the flags about, and making them look, in the evening dusk, like so many big arms twisting and twirling from the windows and house-tops.

Suddenly a little speck of light crept round the corner. It was scarcely larger than the end of a burning cigar seen at night. Then came another little dot of fire, then another and another, until the fagades of the tall buildings in the distance seemed to have broken out into a rash of light. "They are illuminating!" cried the mob, not in a loud London manner, but in a quiet kind of observation made to each other. How curiously the illumination burst out! Now an "N" slowly became perfect; and the little lines of blue and yellow lamps, arranged round windows, and forming the outlines to doors, gradually grew complete. In less than half an hour every lamp around you was burning. It appeared sudden as an Italian sunset.

HER MAJESTY'S ARRIVAL.

The sound of a cannon was heard in the direction of the railway station. "She has come! she has come!" cry the people, and dresses rustle, and pretty laughs burst out as the beautiful ladies hurried to their seats. Another cannon, and the excitement grew each instant more intense. A gentleman at the window behind us had a napkin tied round his neck. He had left his dinner, perhaps a lovely *poulard au Marengo*, to see the English Queen pass by. What greater compliment could be paid to royalty! Another gentleman close to us, who had been standing with his head on one side, like a man counting the strokes of a clock, told us that the cannon had fired twenty-one "coups," and a lady on our other side remarked that it was a "joli compliment."

Drums rattled in the distance, each instant becoming more and more distinct; then a horseman turned the corner, and then came a body of mounted Guides. "It is the Queen," the "Reine d'Angleterre." The carriages came in sight, a lady was seen—and in an instant everybody was wearing hat or pocket-handkerchief.

The Empress was not in the procession. The ladies in the balcony above seemed to be very much attached to the beautiful, fair-haired Eugénie; for they all inquired after her in a most earnest manner.

The Queen was dressed in a blue silk mantle, and wore a white bonnet. When she arrived at the terminus of the Strasbourg Railway, she was received by the Emperor, who was waiting for her. As soon as it became dark, Prince Napoleon had ordered lights to be properly arranged about the building. Glass chandeliers and an infinite number of wax candles were instantly placed and suspended from every available spot. Many of the flower-beds and evergreen shrubberies were in this manner illuminated, and the effect produced was lovely in the extreme.

As her Majesty stepped forward on the platform that was arranged for

her reception, the ladies waved their handkerchiefs, and the troops presented arms, and the band of the Guides struck up "God save the Queen." The shrill, soft voices of the ladies, the clatter of the arms, and the brazen notes of the band, all mingled together. Her Majesty was so astonished at the excessive beauty of the decorations prepared for her, that for a second she stood still, staring in mute wonder, and indeed she seemed so lost, that General Lawastine thought it best to recall the royal lady to her senses by presenting her with a bouquet of magnificent hot-house plants.

Her Majesty was conducted by the Emperor to the lovely apartment arranged for her, and, without a moment's delay, the imperial carriages were ordered to draw up before the entrance, and the whole party entered them. The Queen took her place in an open carriage with four horses and postilion, wearing the imperial livery. By her side sat the Princess Royal. The Emperor and Prince Albert, who severally wore a General's and a Field Marshal's uniform, occupied the places in front of her Majesty.

It wanted a quarter to nine when the royal party reached their destination at St. Cloud. On their way through the Bois de Boulogne, cavalry carrying torches accompanied the procession. At the foot of the grand staircase, the Empress Eugénie was waiting to welcome her royal visitor. Their meeting was affecting and loving. They embraced each other several times.

At night the whole of Paris, Boulogne, and St. Cloud were illuminated. The streets were thronged with immense multitudes, who walked up and down, quietly enjoying the scene. We did not witness one quarrel or disturbance among these 1,000,000 people. The seats among the cafés were all filled by coffee drinkers and smokers, or ladies sipping their orgueil, or trying to cool themselves with an ice.

Everybody was delighted with the day, and spoke of it with gratitude, not only because they had seen a gorgeous procession, but because they felt that the *ville* was, as it were, the inauguration of a friendship with a foreign nation, and one which hitherto had been looked upon as a hostile and rival power. It seemed to them that they had in that day dismissed so many millions of enemies, and substituted in their places so many earnest friends. The day can never be forgotten. The books of history will preserve its memory; for it has been of more importance to the interests of both England and France than either a battle gained or a country conquered.

ENGLISH SOVEREIGNS IN FRANCE.

SINCE the eventful period when that "anointed craven," John Lackland, was expelled with ignominy from his continental possessions by Philip Augustus, the real founder of the French monarchy, several of our kings have visited France; but only one has appeared within the gates of Paris in the character of a friend and ally. Edward I., the greatest of English sovereigns, went to Paris in 1273, and met with a courteous reception from his cousin, King Philip le Hardi. So much for the "curious fact, that never since France was consolidated into one nation—and before that time Paris had no right to the title of the capital of France—has an English monarch entered her gates in peace!" Edward III., in the days of his clouded youth, was magnificently entertained, for more than a fortnight, by the French King at Amiens, but when he next crossed the Channel, it was "with banner, brand, and bow." His grandson, Richard II., received between Ardres and Calais, the hand of a French princess in marriage. Henry V., the hero of Agincourt, was in Paris and various other places in France, where his absence would have been infinitely preferred to his presence. The ill-starred Henry VI., was, while an infant, crowned in Paris, in defiance of the national prejudices of France, with the diadem so soon to be plucked from his brow. His Yorkist successor, Edward IV., conducted an army to France, but he was met on a bridge, near Amiens, and cozened by Louis the Crafty, who ineffectually invited the voluptuous monarch to go and divert himself with the gay ladies of Paris, jocularly promising to appoint as his confessor, the Cardinal Bourbon, who was just the man to grant easy absolution for any peccadilloes in which he might have indulged. Henry VII. landed an army in France and laid siege to Boulogne, but abandoned his military enterprise with a haste which caused much discontent among his subjects. Henry VIII. competed in magnificence with Francis I., at the Field of the Cloth of Gold, and that interview only led to an alliance which was succeeded by a very bitter war. Charles II. was in Paris as an exile and a fugitive; and James II. was there, between his deposition by a Dutch son-in-law, and his decease at St. Germain-en-Laye. Ten years ago Queen Victoria met at the Château d'Eu the Citizen-King, whose scandalous policy was then urging France on to that revolution which furnished Napoleon III. with the opportunity of grasping the imperial sceptre, which he now wields with so much decision and directs with so much prescience.

TRANSMISSION OF NEWSPAPERS BY POST.—On the 18th inst. the Post Office authorities issued a notice to the public in the shape of amended regulations in regard to the transmission of newspapers to British colonies and foreign countries. The points which will materially affect the newspaper press, more particularly those which possess an extensive circulation abroad, are the following:—In future the impressed stamp will be required only in cases of repeated transmission of the same newspaper in this country, though it will, of course, be available also for single transmission in this country. In the transmission of newspapers abroad (whether to the colonies or foreign countries) the use of the impressed stamp will entirely cease; it will neither be required nor will it count as postage, as it will be presumed that where it is employed it has already served for the transmission of the paper in the United Kingdom. It will necessarily follow—1. That every newspaper going abroad must have the postage to which it is liable represented by adhesive postage stamps or paid in money. 2. That a newspaper, whether published with or without the impressed stamp, will be placed in the same position for transmission abroad. 3. That the impressed stamp will hereafter apply only to transmission and re-transmission within the United Kingdom.

GENERAL GARIBBALDI, who defended Rome against the French in 1849, has obtained from the Piedmontese Government his nomination as captain of the first class; in consequence of which he has been entrusted with the ultimate command of the Ligurian and Salvatore steamers, belonging to a private company.

GENERAL WILLIAM PEPE, who lately died at Turin, was the hero of that name whose gallant defence of Venice is already famous in history. He was a Neapolitan by birth, and had at one time great influence with King Ferdinand, whom he endeavoured to convert to his own constitutional opinions. In 1848 he organised the National Guard at Naples, and was the General-in-Chief of that force. He so far succeeded in bringing the King over to his views, that he obtained his consent to march at the head of an army to aid Charles Albert against the Austrians. But when the troops got as far on their march as Bologna, they received from King Ferdinand an order of recall. General Pepe refused to obey the summons. The regular troops of his army, however, deserted him; but followed by the National Guard, he threw himself into Venice, and there won celebrity. Before 1848 he fought a duel at Florence with Lamartine, in consequence of some verses, in which the poet had described the Italians as but the "dust of the dead." He was 80 years old when he died.

CAMP AT COLCHESTER.—The erection of new barracks upon the Ordnance Field, near this town, for the accommodation of 8,000 of the Militia of the United Kingdom, is progressing with extraordinary rapidity. The entire number of huts in course of construction is about 270, of which 111 will be for the use of the ordinary men of the various regiments, with a proportionate number for their officers, and 18 for the *servants*. The buildings will form six rows, running from the Mersea Road to the Military Road, intersected by six carriage-ways, the three principal being 90ft. in width, and the remainder 40ft. wide. The huts will be appropriated to six battalions, each complete in itself, with officers' rooms, mess establishments, stables, servants' rooms.

GERUSALEM.—A letter from Jerusalem of the 23rd ult. confirms the intelligence that the disturbances in the mountains of Sichem, which at one time menaced all Palestine, had been put down by the energy and tact of Kiamil Pacha, the governor of the province.

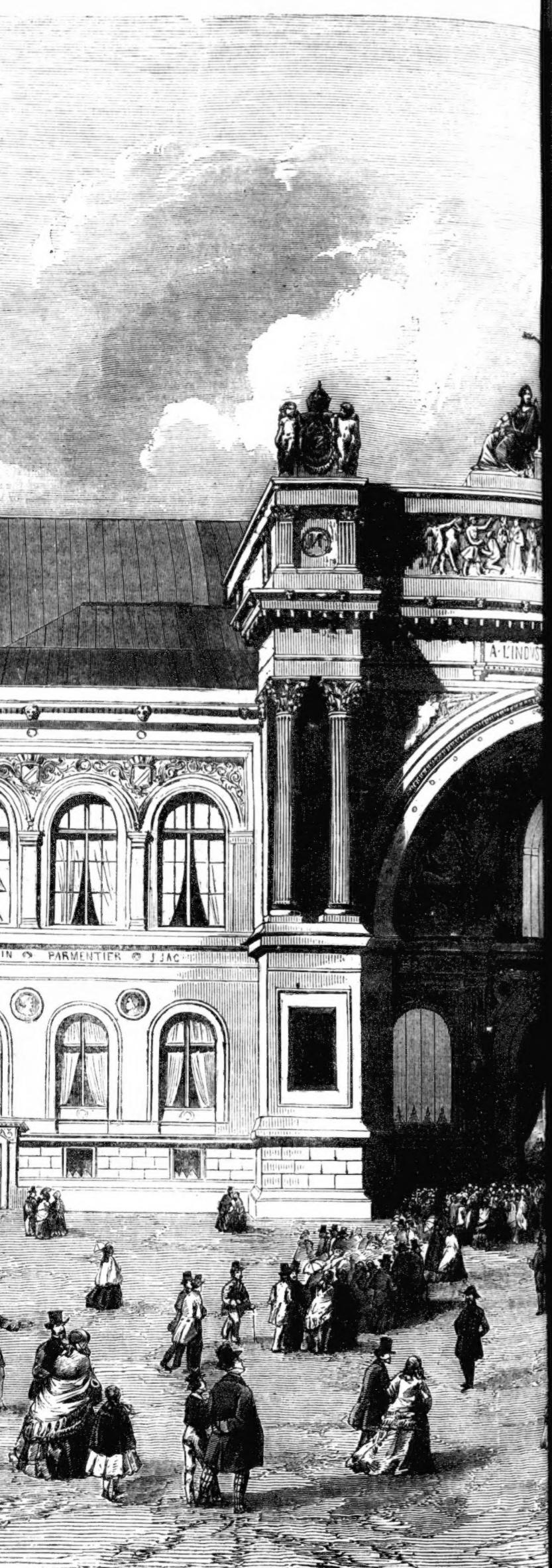
THE HORSE FAIR.—Mdle. Rosa Bonheur's picture of "Horse Fair" is sold to an Englishman—but not a resident in England—for a trifte under £2000. Mdle. Bonheur has painted a reduced copy for the engraver, which is now in Mr. Thomas Landseer's hands. The second picture has been purchased by Mr. Jacob Bell, late candidate for Marylebone.



THE GRAND ENTRANCE TO THE PARIS



EXHIBITION, IN THE CHAMPS ELYSEES



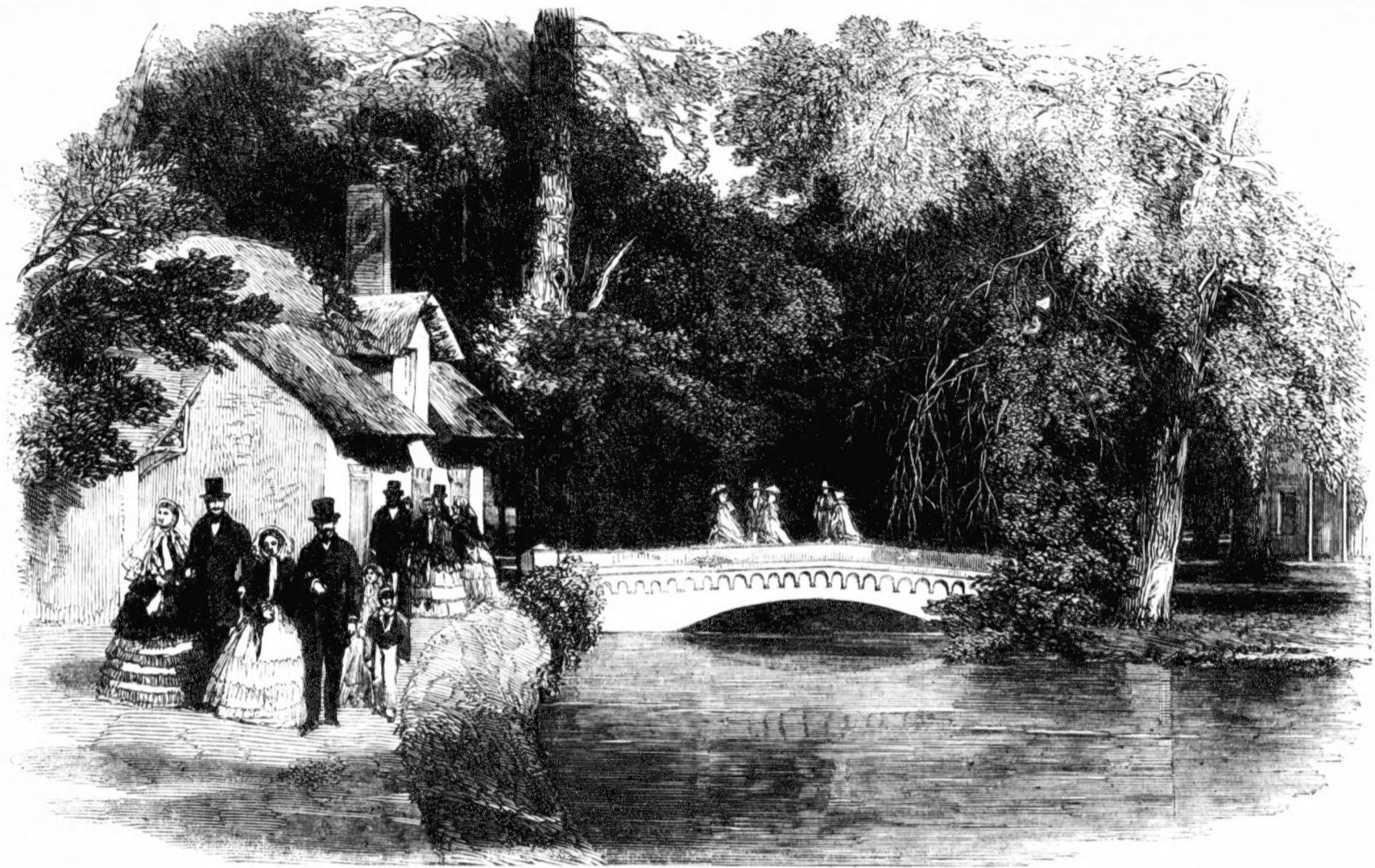
THE GRAND ENTRANCE TO THE PARIS



EXHIBITION, IN THE CHAMPS ELYSEES



THE CHIEF MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE PETIT TRIANON.

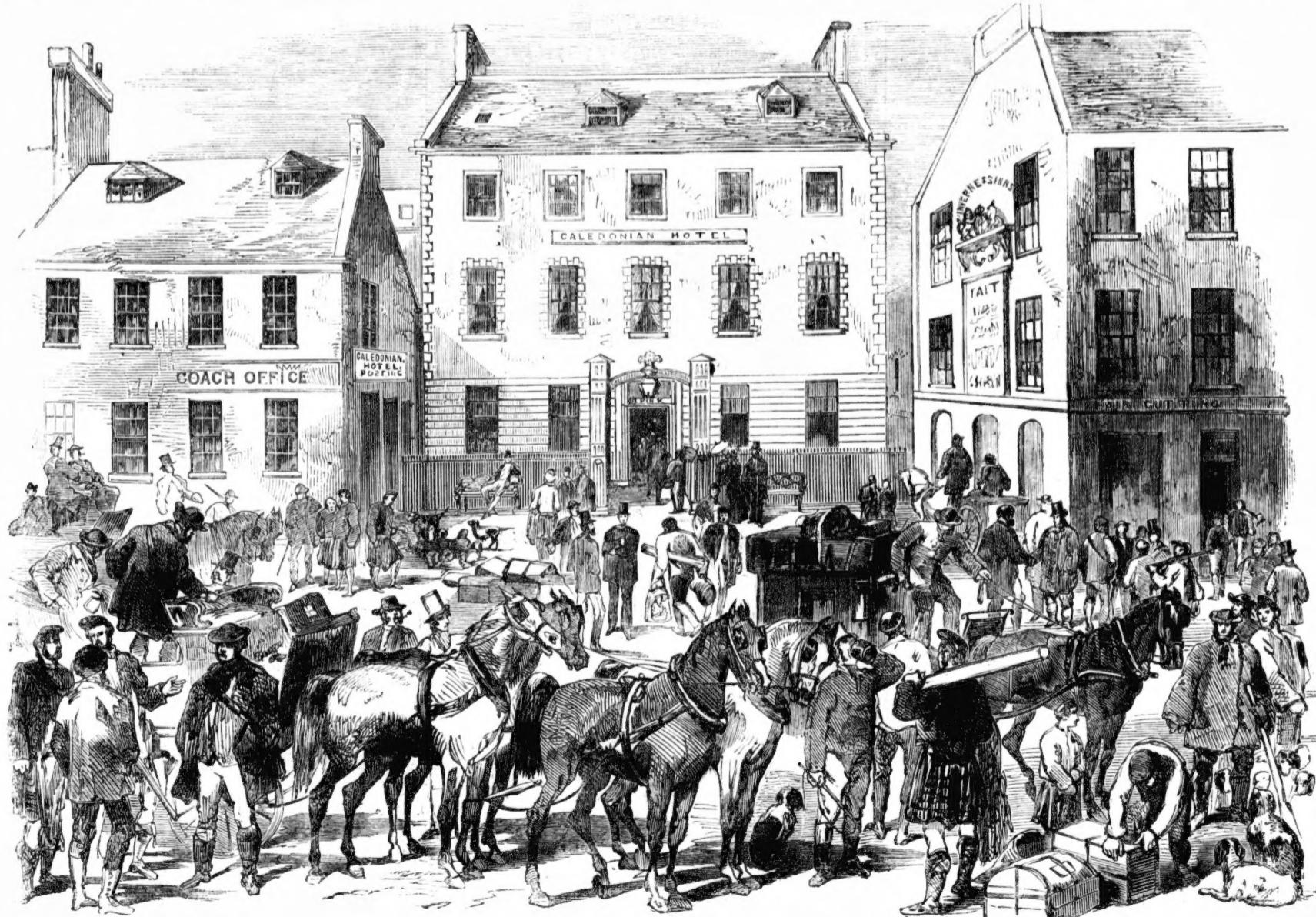
THE MOORS.

THE quantity of grouse is not less than the average of years, and is scarcely below last season—an extraordinary one in sporting annals. The reports show that the moors were rarely better stocked with larger broods, and, that in some instances, the young birds were never in better condition. The game-dealers state that they received as many grouse as on any previous occasion, and that in weight and strength the young birds were little, if at all, below the average. The prevalence of the rumour that birds were scarce and hardly fledged, induced a number of grouse-shooters to give their moors a jubilee of a week or fortnight beyond the opening day; while

many were deterred altogether from visiting the Highlands this year. During the first week, Sir Henry Wilmot killed 65 brace grouse, 7 hares, on the 13th; and 43 brace grouse and 2 hares on the 14th. Mr. Bass, M.P., on the 14th killed 57 brace grouse. Mr. Hurrel bagged 110 brace grouse and 8 hares on the 13th, and 52 brace grouse and 1 hare on the 14th. Sir George Beaumont shot 48 brace of grouse, 3 hares, and a duck, the first day, and 64 brace grouse, 1 hare, and 1 rabbit on the second day. Sir A. P. Gordon Cumming and the Rev. E. P. Campbell shot 52 brace at Alyre. At Guisachan, Mr. Majoribanks killed 33 brace, and Mr. Hogg 10 brace. Master Macpherson of Cluny, on the moors near Cluny Castle,

bagged 12 brace grouse in a few hours. Mr. Noakes, and two gentlemen on the Newtonmore ground bagged 62½ brace grouse. The Duke of Leeds and two gentlemen at Glenfeshie bagged 40 brace. Some of the best shootings in the north are still unlet. One sad cause has perceptibly affected the number of visitors in the Highlands this season. Many gallant gentlemen, keen and active sportsmen, who for a long period of their lives never failed to brush the dew from the heather on the morning of the 12th, now rest in the green valleys of the Crimea.

With regard to deer-stalking, Lord Lovat, the Master of Lovat, the Hon. Captain Fraser, and the Hon. Henry Fraser, shot 12 stags in the forest of



OFF TO THE MOORS.—A SKETCH AT INVERNESS.

Glenstrathfarar, in good condition, and heads well grown. One stag was well known in the forest for years by a remarkable white spot, and had made several escapes from the swift bullet. In the forest of Ausdale, R. Hall, Esq. shot a good fat stag; and one was shot at Upper Killin by Mr. Lamont.

The engraving on our previous page represents the "Caledonian Hotel," Inverness, a Highland hostelry much frequented at this season by English sportsmen. The town, which is situated on both sides of the Ness, near the spot where that river flows into the Moray Firth, boasts of a handsome court-house, with a fine tower and spire, and is not without historical associations of interest. On an eminence are the ruins of an old castle, demolished, in 1745, by the rebels; and in the vicinity may be seen Culloden Heath, the scene of the last brave, but desperate and sanguinary, struggle of the ill-fated adherents of the Royal house of Stuart, to subdue fortune and the swords of those soldiers who upheld the Hanoverian dynasty.

The Sphinx.

CHARADE.

IN WHICH THE CASE OF OUR INCORRIGIBLE FRIEND TURNDOWN COLE-RIDGE IS REPRESENTED IN A MORE HOPELESS LIGHT THAN EVER.

I.

SCENE.—A cheesemonger and butlerman's shop. COLE-RIDGE discovered (or in constant dread thereof) in his shirt sleeves and a white apron, occupying an official position behind the counter. PHERKINS (his principal) eyeing him watchfully from behind the ledger in the counting-house.

Coleridge. And it has come to this! A cheesemonger I who have served Mount Hybla's homed sweets Wholesale and retail; who have weigh'd great truths, And sliced up falsehood into half-eunce bits. I, who the human heart in ev'ry place, Decay'd and sound—my "taster" a steel pen— Have probed and tested—(finding here and there, A fresh and juicy morsel, flavour'd still With the pure milk of human kindness, scarce By sorrow's rennet curdled; now a lump Of rank and mouldy rotteness o'erun By maggot passions)—I to come to this! The gifted bard, instead of Attic Salt, To deal in Kendal Fresh; the poet, who Has heard the music of the spheres, to stoop To these coarse products of the Milky Whey! Olympian Jupiter, is this the cheese?

Enter a small boy.

Small boy. Shop!

Coleridge (musingly). Yet how wondrous is the human soul! How from the shopman's counter e'en it soars To higher shelves than—

Pherkins (angrily). Now, you! What's your name— Just serve the customer.

Coleridge (to small boy). Your pardon, Sir!

What can I serve you with?

Small boy. Please do you buy Waste paper? If you do, how much for this?

Coleridge (weighing the consignment).

If we do buy it! I should think we did. Else had I never this poor refuge found, From biting cares and soul-corroding want. 'Twas selling tragedies and epics vast To Mr. Pherkins (the sole patron I Have ever known) first brought me to his ken. He knows not yet this luckless hand it was That penn'd the lines—But I digress: it comes To fourpence farthing. There you are.

Small boy (pocketing the proceeds). All right!

(Exit in high spirits.)

Coleridge (looking over the purchased documents). Poetry! and in print—some men are blest! What have we here? Queer-looking lines, i' faith, And rhymes eccentric. I must study this.

[He reads. PHERKINS watches him narrowly. After some time, COLE-RIDGE starts up.]

Would I had seen this earlier; but yet 'Tis not too late. No, here's the sort of thing That I was born to write. That thing about The crow—or what is it—that perch'd above The chamber door, is really very fine. But I can beat it; and the other lay About the clocks, or chimes—no matter, I Can catch its jingling, tingling, mingling strain. When shop is shut, I'll take a walk. It rains: Would that my Bluchers or the night were come! This will I keep.

[He pockets the fragments of my first, and proceeds to dust the counter.

Pherkins (suspiciously). What's that he pocketed?

Him and the till I'll keep a hi upon.

[He adds up a column, and finding a deficiency in his balance over-charges a respectable customer.]

II.

SCENE.—COLE-RIDGE'S Sleeping Apartment. Midnight. COLE-RIDGE reads from a Blotted Manuscript.

"It was many and many a year ago, In an alley by the Thames, That a maiden liv'd whom you all may know By the name of Elizabeth James; And this maiden lived with no other thought Than to follow me through the flames.

She was a dressmaker, and I was in a stockbroker's counting-house!"

That line halts strangely, and is somewhat long; Yet have I striven hard to keep it down To proper limits. Pshaw! what, after all, Is pulsing sentiment for times like these? Rather let biting satire be my whip, To lash and flog the folly of the age.

[He tears up the above, and with considerable difficulty composes the following.]

"See the patient with the pills— Cockle's pills!"

What a world of cash they're said to save in doctor's bills! How he tumbles, tumbles, tumbles

In the trap (and at the height Of the charges never grumbles), Quite believes the medicine humbles

Of each malady the might, And of Time, Time, Time,

Checks the work with skil sublime,

Through a magic panacea, that some guardian angel wills In the pills, pills, pills, In the pills, pills, pills, In the saving, sickness braving, Of the pills,

"See the vegetable pills, Morrison's pills!"

A foot too long! and "Morrison" 's a word Defies the efforts of the pruning knife.

Satire is not my forte, and humour is Beneath a poet's notice. No! his task Should rather be to paint his own heart's struggles. Here goes again!

[He re-applies himself to my second.]

III.

The Next Morning. Daybreak.

PHERKINS in the Lobby, Solus.

The day is breaking, and the light still burns. What is he after? Some burglarious game, Perchance. I do suspect him grievously. The till's all right, but that should only prove He meditates some more nefarious scheme. I'll in upon him softly.

[Enter COLE-RIDGE's room on tiptoe, and discovers the latter asleep before a manuscript.]

Ha! what's this?

Writing? 'Tis to the *Lancet*, past a doubt, Exposing that ingenious scheme of mine For mixing butter up with neat's foot oil And Paris plaster. If it be so, I Will straight some silver spoons convey into His box, and have him in my pow'r. Let's read.

[He reads.]

THE GOOSE.

(A Dramatic Poem.)

Once upon the stage of Drury, I a tragedy of Fury,

Written out in five long acts (they wished to cut it down to four), Had succeeded out in bringing,—up the prompter's bell was ringing— At the first two lines a stinging noise was heard across the floor.

'Tis a thorough draught, I mutter'd, through a chink in wall or floor. Only that, and nothing more!

Ah, distinctly I remember, it was in the chill November; And the lessee, for December, his resources all and more Had exhausted, to my sorrow; all that he could steal or borrow On a pantomime had wasted—meant to bring him cash galore— And on my high art production could lay out no greater store Than a crown, say—nothing more!

And I recollect a certain dinginess of scene and curtain Thrill'd me, filled me with misgivings I had never felt before; And the part that, for Macready, I had written, to a needy Super, clad in fleshings seedy, was entrusted—(what a bore!) So I said, when he commenced in voice, compound of lisp and roar, "Twill be ——" —that and nothing more.

Well, this most egregious strutter, blundering on with hitches and stutters, Though the first scene somehow got. His faults the audience tamely bore, Still no good impression made he. Yet I looked not on the shady Side—but for the leading lady—hoped my prospects to restore; But at her first speech (twelve lengths)—the audience—(such as didn't snore)— Hiss'd, and groan'd, and nothing more.

With each line the noise grew stronger; blinded to the fact no longer— That unpleasant demonstration, known as GOOSE in scenic lore, Recognised I, in a jiffy, asked the stage-director if he Would go forward, of the audience their indulgence to implore Just to give the piece a hearing, their forbearance to implore Merely that, and nothing more!

"Gentlemen," he cried, "and ladies"—said the audience "Go to Hades!" (Not exactly that expression was the form the mandate bore). "Will you give the piece a hearing—soon the climax will be nearing. 'Twas rehearsed in such a hurry; in a scene—or three or four, You'll be charm'd—do sit a few out, if it's only three or four." Said the audience, "Never more."

"British public," said he, "really, our chief actor is severely ill; he had to throw his part up yesterday and not before, And the gentleman who's under-taken it, 'tis no great wonder Now and then should make a blunder; but, if peace you won't restore, Will you come again to-morrow, if your tickets I restore?"

Hiss'd the audience, "Never more!"

And the tragedy (produced it never was, because they goos'd it For a second time) upon the shelf within the lessee's store, Lying rotten, quite forgotten, like a damaged bale of cotton, Buried stays for now and ever, and the sum of one pound four, That pernigh should have paid me—e'en that single one pound four!

I shall see, ah! never more!

* * * * *

Pherkins. Begone!

Coleridge. But this intrusion, sir?

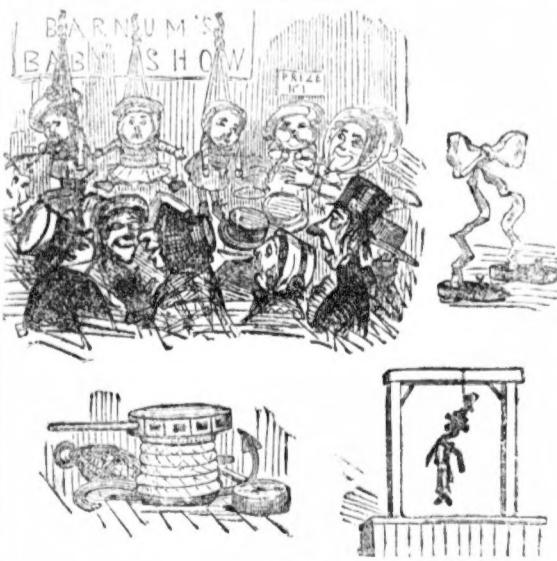
Pherkins. Begone

Pack up your traps, and for the wages due,

Sue me within the court. No man stays here

Who wastes his time in writing—

(The concluding word of the line being my WHOLE, is inexpedient for publication. The scene closes on a tableau of COLE-RIDGE tying up his manuscripts and other collar in a blue and white pocket-handkerchief.)



REBUS.

ANSWER TO CHARADE IN LAST NUMBER.

Decoration (Deck-oration.)

ANSWER TO REBUS IN LAST NUMBER.

Soldiers in peace are like chimneys in summer.

[Soldiers in P (pea); ee; A R E like chimneys; in; summer.]

STRIKE OF WORKMEN IN PARIS.

The Correctional Tribunal of Paris has just concluded an interesting trial of 61 workmen, belonging to the bronze founders of A. M. Chavaro, Esk, and others, for having struck work, because their employers would not use fecula instead of charcoal. It was urged on the part of the defence, that charcoal powder in moulding was deleterious, and that the defendants had been induced to strike in consequence of the bad effects which it had produced on their health. The question brought before the tribunal, therefore, turned upon the respective advantages and disadvantages of fecula or charcoal powder, in a practical point of view, as substances for moulding. The plaintiffs maintained that fecula required much greater care and time, and much more experienced hands, than charcoal did; and that, moreover, in many cases fecula could not be used at all; thus, bronzes cast in fecula did not gild well. The defendants called several witnesses, among whom was M. Christophe, the well-known silversmith, who deposed that fecula, though requiring somewhat more care in its manipulation, produced articles in no degree inferior to those obtained with charcoal; and that he was present at a consultation held by three eminent physicians, MM. Escoufier, Tardieu, and Pelonze, on the cases of between 25 and 30 sick workmen, and that it was their unanimous opinion that the ill health of those men was entirely owing to the use of charcoal, which, as it rises in the air in a state of an impalpable powder, is introduced into the lungs by respiration. M. Chevreuil, the eminent chemist, deposed that he had caused the body of a workman, who had died lately, to be dissected, and had convinced himself that the man's death was entirely attributable to charcoal deposited in the lungs. As to other substances that might be used in moulding, the witness observed that any impalpable powder, whether farinaceous or not, sufficiently light to be wafted up into the air, would have the same deleterious effects as charcoal; but that fecula was thicker than charcoal powder, and its atoms more adhesive, so that they were not liable to float in the air. The trial was concluded on the 18th, when four of the defendants were acquitted, two were condemned to two years' imprisonment, and the rest to three months' imprisonment and 25 francs fine. When the sentence of two years' imprisonment was read, a man in the crowd exclaimed, "That is infamous!" which caused some excitement. He was instantly arrested, and acknowledged the fact; but could not for some time be prevailed upon, even by his friends, to retract his words; he did so, however, and was condemned to two months' imprisonment, being a much lighter punishment than he would otherwise have incurred.

A MANCHESTER MACHINE IN THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—TESTING THE STRENGTH OF MATERIALS.—In a communication from Messrs. Verrell, Middleton, and Elwell, engineers, Paris, dated the 22nd ult., there is a description of a series of experiments tried before Lord Cowley and other gentlemen of the British embassy, Captain Foule, R.E., and other royal commissioners, with a machine (extremely simple in construction) invented by Mr. Dunn, of the Windsor Bridge Ironworks, Salford. The first experiment was on a piece of French-grown pine, 12 inches square, and 4 feet between the supports, which deflected 4½ inches, and broke with a strain of 42½ tons. Next the tension was tested on a bar of dressed iron, 2 feet long, and one inch diameter: it broke with a strain of 23 tons, or stretching 17 inches. The third experiment was made on a chain cable made by Mr. Tinsley, of Dudley, Staffordshire, of the iron iron, 1½ inch diameter, "stud link," and 20 feet long. It stretched 9½ inches, and broke with a strain of 56 tons. The fourth experiment was upon a piece of French-grown oak, 12 inches square, and 4 feet between the supports. It deflected 5½ inches, and broke with a strain of 54 tons. Our correspondents add that "one end of this log was shaly, and gave way before we considered the full test was on." They state that a quantity of colonial timber is being prepared by the royal commission for further tests, as well as other large cables and bars of iron.

THE NEW METROPOLITAN BUILDINGS ACT.—This act, which received the Royal assent at the end of the session, has just been issued. It is entitled "An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the Construction of Buildings in the Metropolis and its neighbourhood." There are 114 sections, and several schedules. The act is to come into operation, except in cases where it is otherwise expressly provided, on the 1st of January next. It is divided into several parts, and relates to the regulation and supervision of buildings, as to walls and recesses and openings, as also to dangerous structure and party structure, besides which there are numerous miscellaneous provisions. Every building used or intended to be used as a dwelling-house, unless all the rooms can be lighted and ventilated from a street or alley adjoining, is to have in the rear or on the side thereof an open space, exclusively belonging thereto, of the extent at least of 100 square feet. The powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works are defined, and where the expenses for carrying this act into execution are not expressly provided, they are to be deemed to be expenses incurred by the metropolitan board in the execution of the act for the better local management of the metropolis, and are to be raised and paid accordingly. A justice of the peace may cause the inmates of a dangerous structure to be removed into the workhouse of the parish in which the structure is situate. Compensation is to be given to official referees and registrar for the abolition of their offices, and to others.

THE NEW LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.—The Act for the Better Local Management of the Metropolis has just been printed. It contains as many as 251 sections and several schedules. The preamble states that it is expedient that provision should be made for the better local management of the metropolis, in respect of the sewerage and drainage, and the paving, cleansing, and improvements thereof. The term "Metropolis" is to include the City of London, and the parishes set forth in the schedule annexed to the Act. The parishes with more than 2,000 rated householders are to be divided into wards, not more than 8 in a parish, on or before the 10th of October, and the first election of vestrymen under the Act is to take place in November, and annually in the month of May. District boards are to be appointed. A board called the "Metropolitan Board of Works" is to be constituted. The Act treats of the duties of the several officers to be appointed, and the manner in which houses are to be built with respect to drains and sewers. Public conveniences are to be provided, and among the clauses is one to empower vestries and district boards to appoint and pay crossing-sweepers, and such vestries and boards are to appoint medical officers of health. There is a long interpretation clause to the Act, which is to commence and come into operation, except as specially provided as to the appointment by the Secretary of State of not more than four persons to set out the parishes into wards and the election of vestrymen, on the 1st of January next.

THE NEW ACT ON RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.—On Monday this important act was issued. It is entitled, "An Act for securing the Liberty of Religious Worship." By the law as it stood before this act was passed, assemblies for religious worship were required to be certified and registered, and no congregation at which more than 20 persons were present was allowed, under penalties, unless the place was certified and registered. It is now declared that from and after the passing of this act nothing contained in the former acts shall apply to any assembly for religious worship held in any parish, and conducted by the incumbent; or, in case the incumbent is not resident, by the curate of such parish. The recited acts are not to apply to any assembly for religious worship meeting in a private dwelling-house, nor to any assembly for religious worship meeting occasionally in any building not usually appropriated to religious worship; and no person permitting any such congregation to meet in any place occupied by him shall be liable to any penalty for so doing.

CITY OF LONDON REGISTRATION.—Mr. T. Y. McChristie, the Revising Barber, will begin his revision of the lists of voters for members to serve in Parliament for the city of London, on Monday, the 17th of September.

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT.—There were 134 public and 198 local acts passed in the late session, which commenced on the 12th of December, and did not terminate until the 14th instant.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT has consented to lay the foundation stone of the New Midland Institute, at Birmingham, early in November.

VISIT OF MEXICO.—Mr. Stamford, M.P., has left London on a second mission to the newly-created naval hospital, in the East.

AN ELOPEMENT UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

An elopement, recently accomplished in the face of unusual difficulties, has for some time past been the sole topic of conversation on the Fellaides, in the vicinity of Carlisle. The heroine of this romantic affair, unparalleled since the days of Lochinvar, is reputed to have been a minor, very respectably connected, and under the guardianship of a brother, who was, according to the fashion of relatives in such circumstances, particularly ambitious that the juvenile nymph should form a matrimonial alliance calculated to conduce to her advancement in the social scale. The damsel, however, had become enamoured of a young farmer, or rather a farmer's son, who lived in the neighbourhood. Her brother used his influence to dissipate the attachment, as one unworthy of her rank; but the young lady was determined to consult her own happiness, independently of worldly considerations; and the opposition offered to her wishes only made her cling closer and closer to the beloved object. The consequence was, that one Tuesday morning, about a month ago, the enamoured couple hastened across the country to the nearest railway station. Having procured tickets, they awaited the arrival of the train with feverish anxiety; but just before its arrival, the horrible brother, who had been made cognisant of her flight, dropped down upon them. A scene ensued; the fair damsel was marched off under protest, fighting her guardian with words and blows, exclaiming as she left the station, in a tone of sarcastic defiance, "Never mind, Joseph, I'm yours! I'll be true! We'll beat him yet!" Her brother, however, was determined not to be so easily foiled as his disobedient ward imagined. He immediately removed her to Liverpool, where she was placed under strict surveillance; but she still found means to communicate with her lover; and after about a fortnight, he, accompanied by a friend, presented himself under her bed-room window at midnight. Out she came, throwing her clothes before her. On the following morning the parties with whom she was staying found that she was missing, and telegraphed to that effect. There was immediately a look-out along the railway, by which the fugitives were expected to proceed to Gretna. But they had learned wisdom by experience, and the young lady was resolved not to be again torn from her lover. Therefore, instead of taking the train, they sailed by the first packet for the west coast of Scotland, from whence they proceeded to Gretna, where they were married according to the "time-honoured" Border fashion.

OBITUARY.

His GRACE THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER, expired on Saturday last, after a painful and protracted illness, borne throughout with the greatest fortitude and resolution.

VISCOUNT HEREFORD, the Premier Viscount of the English Peerage, expired on Saturday last, at his residence in Wilton Crescent, in the prime of manhood. The deceased, Robert Fleming Devereux, Viscount Hereford, in the Peerage of England, and a Baronet, was eldest son of Henry, 11th Viscount, by Francis Elizabeth, third daughter of the late Sir George Cornwallis, Bart. He was born May 3, 1809, and married, in 1841, Miss Ravenscroft, daughter of the late Mr. George Ravenscroft, by whom he leaves issue a youthful family. The deceased succeeded to the ancient Viscountcy on the death of his father, May 31, 1843. His Lordship was educated at Downing College, Cambridge, and was rector of Little Hereford. His eldest son, Robert, born in 1843, succeeds to the family honours.

MR. PARK, the eminent sculptor, died recently at Warrington, in his 48th year. The deceased, who was a native of Glasgow, studied under Thorwaldsen, at Rome, and was a contemporary disciple with Gibson. His busts of the Emperor Napoleon III., the Duke of Cambridge, Mr. Layard, M.P., Sir Harry Smith, the late Sir Charles Napier, and Lord Dundonald, are well known.

HENRY COLBURN, Esq., the well-known publisher, died on Thursday week, at his house in Bryanston Square. His public career connected him intimately with the literature of the present century, and few are the distinguished writers, during the last forty years, whose names were not associated with Mr. Colburn. In a recent re-publication of one of Mr. Darnell's novels, a handsome tribute is paid to his acuteness of judgment and generosity of dealing. He originated those weekly literary reviews which have since been so successful, established more than one newspaper, and conducted for a great many years the magazine which still bears his name.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

KILMARNOCK.—Mr. Bouvier, who has been appointed President of the Poor-Board, presented himself to the electors of Kilmarnock for re-election on the 10th inst. The proceedings did not occupy more than a quarter of an hour. There being no other candidate, the Right Hon. Gentleman, after being proposed and seconded, was declared duly elected.

MR. DUFFY, the well-known Irish patriot, has, in despair and disgust at the apathy of his countrymen, resigned his seat in Parliament, and resolved on emigrating to Australia. "The Irish party," says Mr. Duffy, in his address, "is reduced to a handful, the popular organisation is deserted by those who created it, pretenders of the Irish Church throng the ranks of our opponents. . . . For the last 12 months I have spared no pains in public or private to rally the National party; but in vain. A preternatural apathy reigns over the country, disheartened by corruption and pampered by a false and temporary prosperity. . . . To prevent desertion you must liove deserters; but when they were exonerated, when Catholic bishops became their political sponsors; when, added to the wages of treason, there was popular immunity, what wonder that the despatch of the swill mob" who infested the railways.

The Magistrate said he had no doubt about that; the prisoner no more belonged to Taunton than he did. He should sentence him to three months' hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction.

THE PEER AND ANOTHER CABMAN.—The Earl of Kingston, who attended personally at the Westminster Police Court, about a fortnight ago, to answer the complaint of a cabman, and was then adjudged to pay the fare for which he had been sued, and costs, amounting to £1 1s., has been again summoned for neglecting to pay a cabman a fare claimed.

In the present instance, his Lordship's name was called in the ordinary way, and being unanswered, the case was proceeded with in his absence.

One of the summoning officers of the court stated that he served a copy of the summons produced, on Tuesday morning last, at his Lordship's residence, 35, Park Street, Grosvenor Square. It was a grocer's shop where his Lordship lodged, and the landlady promised to deliver the summons to him.

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The Magistrate observed that, under the old law, a driver might make his selection between time and distance, but under the present he was not entitled to do so. The first note under schedule A in the recent Act of Parliament said, "the above fares to be paid according to distance or time, at the option of the hirer, to be expressed at the commencement of the hiring; if not otherwise expressed, the fare to be paid according to distance"; and the mode of computation was to calculate the amount of distance, and then add any time which he had had to wait, at the rate of 6d. for every 15 minutes completed. A cabman could not charge for the time occupied in the travelling, unless, as before stated, especially agreed upon by the hirer, but he possesses the advantage of being able to reckon both ways.

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ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

HOME CIRCUIT.

GODFREY V. MILNE.—This action to recover damages for a breach of promise of marriage, was tried last week at Croydon, before Mr. Justice Crosswell and a Common Jury. It appeared by the evidence, that about this time two years, there was residing at Torquay, in Devonshire, a lady named Godfrey, who occupied herself as a daily governess, and was in the habit of giving lessons to the families of some of the most respectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. This decorous spinster was, at the date referred to, on the shady side of thirty, and perhaps a matrimonial alliance was one of those events rather sighed for than anticipated. It came to pass, nevertheless, that her personal attractions, which are described as considerable, captivated the heart or the imagination of Milne, the defendant in this case, who having been in the naval service, and holding at the time an appointment in the Coast Guard, happened to take lodgings in the same house. Whether the lady "set her cap" at the gallant coast-guardsman, who was about her own age, and moreover had a nice little income of £200 a year, or whether the latter recognised in her a heroine with "thoughts, feelings, tastes, harmonious to his own," does not appear. But at the commencement of the year 1854, they were on the most affectionate terms, and Milne was in the habit of escorting the demoiselle to various places of amusement, was looked upon by every one as her intended husband, and eventually made her a formal offer of marriage. Things went on for some time in this manner, but at length it appeared that the fair being communicated with a male cousin, she having, it appeared, only one parent alive—a mother, who was very advanced in life. The said cousin applied to the defendant, and inquired the reason why he had not fulfilled his engagement? The defendant

admitted the engagement, and expressed his regret at what had occurred. A reconciliation was effected, and the jury continued as before. Shortly afterwards, however, it appeared that Miss Godfrey made another communication to her cousin, in consequence of which he again saw the defendant, and accused him of having made some unbecoming proposals to the plaintiff, and of having endeavoured to induce her to consent to his wishes by stating that she was already his wife in the eye of God. The defendant did not appear to deny that this was true, but he expressed deep regret for his conduct; another reconciliation was effected, and the parties continued on the most friendly terms until the end of the year, when it was ascertained that the defendant had been paying his addresses to the daughter of a farmer in the same neighbourhood, who was under 20, and who was said to be entitled to considerable property; and it at length transpired that the 20th of January was the day fixed for the marriage. Miss Godfrey, with feelings deeply wounded, of course, upon this wrote a long letter, in which she made some representations of an unfavourable character with regard to the family of the young lady to whom the defendant was about to be married, and begged her father's leave to pause before he carried out the step he had in contemplation. The latter did not make any direct allusion to the promise of marriage, but it was written in most affectionate terms, and spoke of the defendant having broken his promises, but added that what was passed could not be recalled. It appeared that on the evening of the 19th, the defendant went to her residence, and wished to have a private interview with her. What his precise object was did not very clearly appear, but, from the testimony of a servant, whose curiosity was excited, and who it seems had listened outside the door for some time, he was in a very excited state, cried bitterly, and declared that he should never love any other woman than the plaintiff, and that he was sure she should never be happy with the woman he was about to marry. After Mr. Milne had left, Miss Godfrey proceeded to the house of the clergyman by whom the ceremony was to be performed on the following day, and informed him of what the defendant had said, particularly calling his attention to the fact, that he had stated that he was sure he could not be happy with the woman he was going to marry. Upon this the clergyman sent for the defendant, and had some conversation with him upon the subject, when he did not deny the accuracy of Miss Godfrey's statement, but said it could not be helped then, and he could not marry her. The clergyman subsequently communicated with the young lady's father, but he did not think proper to take any steps in the matter, and the marriage was celebrated on the day appointed.

The learned Judge having summed up, the jury almost immediately returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £400.

SURREY SESSIONS.

CONVICTION OF AN OMNIBUS THIEF.—Mary Ann Leonard, 28, was indicted, on Tuesday, for stealing a purse, containing the sum of £6, from the person of Esther Sully, in an Atlas omnibus.

A verdict of Guilty was returned.

The Chairman asked what was known of her? An ex-detective sergeant, said he had known her for seven years as an associate with the worst of thieves. She had been once convicted of a similar robbery, and once tried and acquitted at these sessions. The man she lived with was a ticket-of-leave convict.

The Chairman told her she was a very bad character, and the court would not be doing its duty if they did not pass a severe sentence. He then sentenced her to six years penal servitude.

The prisoner here caused considerable excitement in the court. She threw herself down in the dock, screaming for her father and children, and seized hold of the railings in such a frantic manner that it required the united strength of three turnkeys to remove her to the cells below.

The public have now got rid of one of the most successful omnibus thieves in London.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

John Tuart, a fashionably-dressed young man, who stated that he was a tailor, and lived in Silver Street, Taunton, was brought before the Southwark Police Court, charged with making a daring attempt to commit a robbery inside the booking-office of the Dover Railway at the terminus, London Bridge, while her Majesty's Ministers and suite were about to leave by train for Dover.

A constable in the employ of the Railway Company, said he was on duty inside the booking-offices about eight o'clock in the evening, just before the train started. The office was crowded to the entrance by ladies and gentlemen anxious to procure tickets, and almost everybody was preparing to start. The constable, according to his orders, kept a sharp look-out for the light-fingered gentry, who gain admission on all such occasions; and near the booking clerk's place he distinctly saw the prisoner go behind a gentleman who had a pouch suspended around his body, and open it. Tuart was about to put his hand into it when he perceived the constable looking at him, and then he rushed among the passengers out of the office. The constable pursued and caught him near the gate at the bottom of the incline, when he brought him back, and gave him in charge. The train started at the time, consequently he could not find the gentleman whom he attempted to rob. He added that there was no Silver Street in Taunton, and on looking at the prisoner's fingers there was not the least appearance of his being a tailor. He had only four and sixpence in his pocket. He had no railway-ticker, or anything to indicate that he had come from the country.

Tuert said he left Taunton on the previous morning, by excursion train, to see the exhibition.

The railway officer here said that it was a most daring attempt at robbery, as there were more than a hundred persons assembled round the booking desk at the time, and many of them carried property about them of considerable value. He had every reason to believe that the prisoner was connected with a gang of "the swell mob" who infested the railways.

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MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

DURING nearly the whole of the week, the business done in all national securities has been limited; nevertheless, prices have ruled tolerably firm, notwithstanding that numerous fluctuations have taken place in them. The Unfunded Debt has been dull and drooping—a circumstance generally expected from the additional amount of bills now upon the market; and it is by no means improbable that the premium will be much lower than it is at present, when the whole of the £7,000,000 shall have been issued, unless, indeed, an advance in the interest is determined upon. It must not be concealed, that £30,000,000 of Exchequer Bills allot at one time, must not only absorb much hitherto unemployed cash, but likewise induce great caution on the part of capitalists in investing money in those securities. The principal feature in their favour is the continued large produce of gold in Australia and California, and the fair prospect of steady im-

portations of gold during the remainder of the year. The following are the leading prices of national stocks—Bank Stock, 21½; Three per Cent Reduced, 9½ to 9½; Three per Cent Consols, 9½; New Three per Cents, 9½; Long Annuities, 18½; ditto, 18½; India Bonds, 25s. to 30s.; Exchequer Bills, 13s. to 15s. premium.

The holdings for the new Turkish loan of £5,000,000 took place on Monday, and the whole sum was taken by one house at 10½. In our opinion, the Turkish Government has reason to be well satisfied with this price. True, it is a four per cent. stock guaranteed by England and France; consequently there is no risk as to all repayments; but we consider the price given by the contractors too high. And this, indeed, appears to be the light in which it is viewed by many of the jobbers who write for scrip several weeks prior to the bidding. Without knowing the price at which the loan would be bid for, they were speculating extensively in the scrip at 3 premium; but now the price is declared, the premium has fallen to 2½. However, the whole of the subscription lists are full—the first deposit has been paid—the contractors are well satisfied—and there is the amount of safety about the loan which could be wished for. Most foreign bonds have been rather dull. The annexed quotations show the leading figures for the week:—Canada, 4½; Turkish 6 per cent., 9½; Dutch 2½ per cent., 6½; ditto 4 per cent., 9½; Brazilian 5 per cent., 10½; Mexico 3 per cent., 2½; Peruvian, 80 to 81; Spanish 3 per cent., 3½; ditto, new deferred, 1½.

The movements of bullion have been very moderate. The exports have been under £100,000; and, from most of the foreign exchanges being favourable, we do not anticipate any serious drain upon our stock of gold for some time. The supply of that metal in the Bank of England is now £16,275,295.

Mining shares have been rather flat. Cocas and Crubas, 3½; St. John del Rey, 2½; United Mexican, 3½.

Joint-stock Bank shares have changed hands steadily. City, 60; London, 55; London and County, 53½ ex div.; London and Westminster, 48. Australian Agricultural shares have marked 2½; Crystal Palace, 2½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 1½; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 6½; London Docks, 10½; Victoria Docks, new, 10½.

Money has been in good request, and the rates of discount have been fully equal to last week.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Very moderate supplies of English Wheat have been received up to our market this week, coastwise and by land carriage; nevertheless, the demand for all kinds has ruled heavy, at a decline in the quotations of from 2s. to 3s. per quarter. Several samples of new wheat have appeared on sale in fair average condition. The finest white has realised 78s; the best red, 74s. per quarter. Foreign wheat has been in full average supply; but so little business has been done in it that the currencies have ruled almost nominal. In floating cargoes very few transactions have been reported. The barley trade has ruled heavy, and to forced sales lower rates must have been submitted to. Malt has commanded more attention, and the quotations have been well supported. Oats, owing to the large imports from abroad, have moved off heavily at 6d. to 1s. per quarter less money. Beans, peas, and flour have met a dull inquiry, at barely stationary prices.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Essex and Kent White Wheat, 69s. to 80s.; ditto, Red, 62s. to 7½; Malting Barley, 31s.; Distilling ditto, 28s. to 32s.; Grinding ditto, 29s. to 33s.; Malt, 6d. to 72s.; Rye, 40s. to 43s.; Feed Oats, 25s. to 27s.; Potato ditto, 27s. to 30s.; Tick Beans, 39s. to 43s.; Pigeon, 42s. to 48s.; White Peas, 4s. to 47s.; Marle, 40s. to 42s.; Gray, 37s. to 40s. per quarter; Town-meal flour, 65s. to 70s.; Town Households, 64s. to 65s.; Country, 55s. to 58s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 50s. to 51s. per 20 lbs.

CATTLE.—Although the supply of beasts has been on the increase, the demand for most kinds has ruled steady, and the quotations have been well supported. The arrivals of sheep have been from extensive; yet the mutton trade has been inactive, and, in some instances, the currencies have had a downward tendency. Lambs have met a heavy sale at a decline of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lbs. Calves have mostly supported former terms, but Pigs have met a dull inquiry. Beef, from 3s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; Mutton, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; Lamb, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; Veal, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—For the time of year, the supplies of each kind of meat on sale in these markets have been tolerably good, and the general demand has ruled very inactive, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; Mutton, 3s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; Lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; Veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; Pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

TRADE.—Although the amount of business doing in this article is by no means extensive, prices continue to be well supported. Common sound Congou, 8½d. per lb. Tea.—The deliveries continue good.

SUGAR.—All kinds of raw sugar have sold steadily this week; but we have no advance to notice in prices, except fine parcels, which are 6d. dearer. Foreign sugars, about, have commanded extreme rates. We have had a fair inquiry for refined goods at from 47s. to 52s. per cwt. The supply in the market is by no means extensive.

MOLASSES.—There is still a steady sale for all kinds. Prices range from 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—Good ordinary native Ceylon is quoted at 48s. 6d. to 49s. 6d. per cwt.; Mocha, 58s. to 90s.; Costa Rica, 50s. to 72s.; and Java, 46s. to 55s. per cwt.

COCOA.—Red Trinidad is selling at 43s. 6d. to 47s.; gray, 40s. to 42s.; Grenada, 39s. to 45s.; Java, 37s. to 37s.; Bahia, 35s. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.—The butter market still rules dull, and in some instances the quotations have a downward tendency. For the time of year, the supplies on offer are very moderate. Carlow is selling at 9s. to 9s.; Waterford, 90s. to 91s. per cwt. The sale for bacon is steady, and prices are well supported. Most other kinds of provision are quite as dear as last week.

WOOL.—So little business is doing in this market that the quotations are almost nominal. The imports this week are very moderate.

COTTON.—All

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